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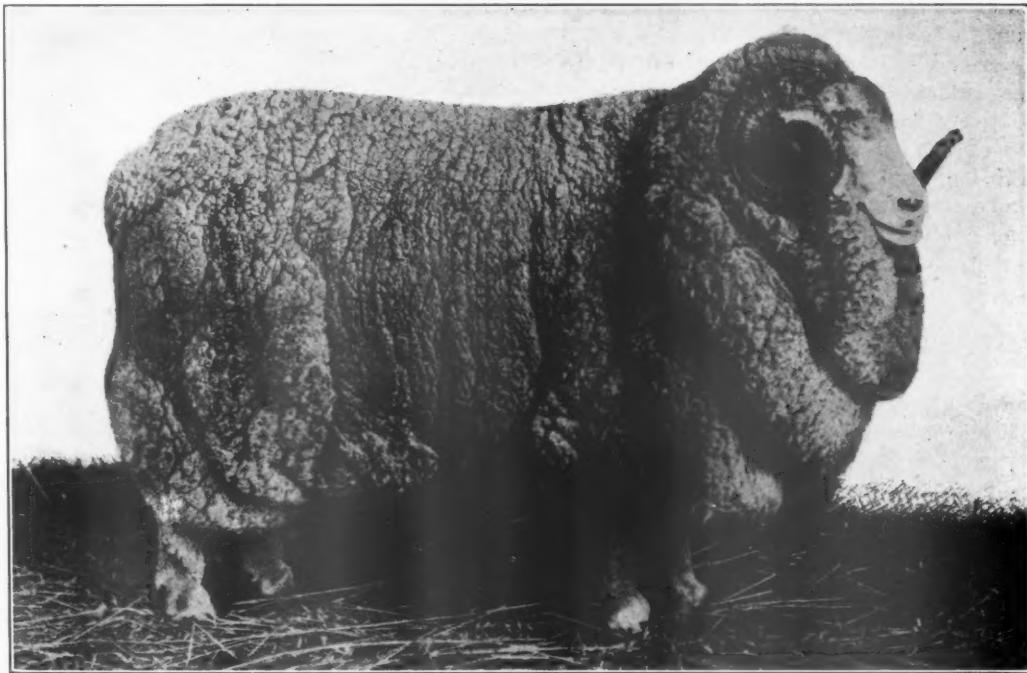
The Collapsible Lamb Market

By J. E. Poole

Something gives the lamb market a discolored optic each season. The time cannot be forecasted. Last year the blow fell in August when someone in authority perpetrated the eat-no-lamb admonition, which, by the way, is still carried on some dining car menu cards. This season so many varieties of tribulation struck the trade that Pandora's box of multiple trouble might be

predicting that the time was not far distant when railroads would be unable to handle sheep business and stockyards would be congested. But even their prescience did not indicate the gluts that occurred at Omaha, where 200,000 head arrived in three days, and in a lesser degree at Chicago. Bragging over volume of business under such conditions was poor

the product to freezers for lack of an immediate outlet and values melted away. From an \$18.50@18.75 basis, fat lambs were marked down to \$15.50 @15.75. Sheep suffered less, but were hit hard, while for cull stuff there was practically no market. Feeding lambs worth \$17@18 on the high spot dropped to \$11.50@12.50. An accumulation was carried over into the suc-



A Ram Sold Recently in Australia at Private Sale For \$12,500

suspected of being the source. There was a suggestion of what was coming even in August, when fat lambs were selling at \$18 to \$18.75 per hundred-weight and Iowa feeders were scrambling to buy second cuts at Omaha on a \$17@18 basis, in reports of drought and feed scarcity in the West. Trade scouts returning from Montana and other dry sections sounded a warning,

taste; it was a catastrophe of which the grower was the victim. Prices slid downhill so rapidly that market men were unable to keep track of events. Getting to the scales was a feat to boast of. Feeders who had been spending money lavishly early in the season backed away, packers were compelled to take thin lambs by the thousand to effect a clearance, sending

ceeding week and always more sheep were on the horizon.

Among the factors responsible for this demoralization were:

Refusal of Colorado feeders to contract material for their feedlots on the range according to custom.

Demoralization of railroad service by refusal of the Union Pacific to permit double-decks to go east of the

Missouri River, piling up stuff at feeding stations, flooding Omaha and Chicago when the obstruction was removed.

Lack of pasture in much of the corn-belt area, which curtailed demand for feeding lambs.

Profiteering by retailers, which repressed demand for product, forcing packers to send the surplus to freezers.

A flood of common, bucky native lambs, the product of which was thrown on the dressed market exerting a paralyzing influence.

First and foremost as a handicap came drouth in the West, which forced liquidation. Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Utah contributed. Fortunately for the vendor of breeding stock, he had a market for himself, the raise-more-sheep propaganda of the previous season bearing fruit. All the cornbelt and Eastern states were in the market for breeding ewes of all ages, especially yearlings, values of this stock holding up relatively well. Early in the season Iowa made a healthy feeder market, but the late September glut inspired Hawkeye state farmers with caution and mid-October found them sitting in at a bargain sale. Eastern feeders were cautious from the outset, which was responsible for the higher feeder market at Omaha compared with Chicago. When the rush came even pegged orders for feeders were withdrawn. Michigan, Illinois and Indiana backed away, forcing killers to come to the rescue. This they did by sending hundreds of tons of lamb to the freezer. Congestion at Eastern markets was a logical sequence. Tons of mutton spoiled in transit. Some reached New York and Boston in condition to be frozen, much had to sell for what it would bring and all through this demoralization the restaurant man and the retailer profiteered to their hearts' content, if that were possible.

And right here is where the native lamb got in its damaging work. A flood of that stuff,—bucky, coarse and comparatively worthless along side of a good Western lamb—was dumped into the market to fill the role of price breaker. Packers sold the product at \$15@16 per hundredweight and were

glad to be rid of it; what the retailer did may be imagined as it was a veritable harvest for him. The big department stores made "drives," selling such lamb at reasonable cost, but 90 per cent of the habitants of the great Eastern cities buys at the neighboring butcher shop and these vendors maintained war prices, actually marking up charges as live cost dropped. Restaurant and hotel keepers pursued the same policy at the same time reducing portions, which contracted consumption and left more meat to go to freezers. Urging the public to eat less beef and pork savors of reason, as both are required in the army ration, but no lamb is used for that purpose, hence economy in its use was senseless, especially during a period of excess production. The Food Administration undoubtedly stimulated pork production a few months ago when packers complained of the load they were carrying and the 15½-cent minimum price was threatened, by an appeal to the public to substitute it for beef, but an equally good opportunity in the case of lamb was neglected on this occasion. Had retailers and restaurant keepers been admonished to refrain from profiteering and public announcement been officially made that lamb was cheap and should be substituted for beef and pork, much would have been accomplished. And, be it remembered, that some railroads still carry the eat-no-lamb slogan on their dining-car printed matter.

But drouth, feed scarcity, railroad mismanagement and absence of a direct feeder movement were undoubtedly the chief causes of this trouble. Had the Union Pacific people handled the situation sagaciously, distribution would have been more uniform and the blockade been unnecessary. When Frank Hagenbarth reached Washington and made the Railroad Administration acquainted with the facts, an order was promptly issued to let double-deck cars move east of Omaha, but by that time the damage had been done. While Chicago was bare and clamoring for lambs, the movement was piling up west of Omaha and when cut loose, it buried everything under a

flood, taxing killing facilities and creating an impression among feeders that the range country was going out of the sheep business. Country buyers who were clamorous for lambs a few weeks before concluded to wait for the bargains of the season. Commission men who embraced the opportunity to fill pegged orders received wire instructions to send no more. The average feeder is handicapped by narrow vision. When markets are bare, he concludes that the time is opportune to buy. On a break he backs away timorously, but when bottom has been reached and the tide turns he resumes spending money, frequently paying \$1 to \$2 per hundredweight more than would have been necessary had he got in at the psychological moment. This is what happened at Chicago when feeding lambs jumped from a \$12 to a \$14 basis in two days.

Colorado's attitude was determined. It ignored Iowa's \$17@18 buying campaign early in the season, confident that there would be plenty of lambs to go around later. At the bottom of the decline it got busy, but so late in the season that it is doubtful if it will secure a full winter compliment. Heretofore Colorado has talked one way and acted the other, but this season the dealer who "had not bought a lamb" was as good as his word. Denver, report has it, was well organized for the occasion. Drouth and its results could not be avoided. Had the season been favorable much of what has happened at the market during the past two months would not have been recorded.

Iowa has done a phenomenal stunt in the matter of absorbing feeding lambs this year. Scarcity of corn huskers was the incentive, but running lambs in corn fields is highly speculative, being little better than a gamble on the weather. Lambs rarely get fat on that treatment and as Iowa farmers are not shodded to handle them in confinement, the stock usually goes to market half fat, frequently to be taken out a second time and finished. If Iowa had the climate of Colorado it would be better equipped by nature for out-door feeding. Already Western

lambs bought in Omaha at \$17 have been sent to Chicago to realize \$14, a basis on which the feeder will not grow wealthy. The upturn in the market early in October, however, places a new face on the subject and it now looks as if the feeder who bought lambs at high prices early in the season will soon be making a little money on his transaction.

HIGH AUSTRALIAN RAM

On another page we publish a photograph of an Australian ram recently sold at private sale in Australia at \$12,500. The picture of this sheep is

discard Merinos of this type and replace them with big mutton-bearing Rambouillet in which wool production will play a lesser role. It is a tragedy that men should spend a life time building up something and then when their work seems complete, changing conditions entirely eliminate their product. But that is the fate meted out to the American breeder of Delaine sheep and the Australian cannot expect otherwise, for our Delaine was in every particular as good a sheep as the Wanganella Merino of Australia. He produced as much wool and of just as good a quality and was fully as large as the Australian type. I have

with a fresh growth and are really better than we have ever seen them at this season of the year.

We have had rains almost weekly, not slight showers but good soaking rains. The lower foothills are green and the outlook for the winter is better than we have known it for thirty years.

Most of the wool growers have bought their hay for their early lambing, but have concluded to wait until they see what the winter does before stocking up on high priced feed.

With the amount of feed on the ranges, it would not be at all surprising to see the later lambing bands car-



Two New Zealand Leicesters

rather disappointing as it indicates a small, wrinkly, but heavily woolled type, such as was discarded in this country ten or more years ago. No doubt this sheep carries a wonderful fleece, but when that is taken from him, there will be but little left. On the rich pastures of Australia these small, wrinkly, heavily woolled Merinos are undoubtedly a profitable sheep, but in this country they lacked constitution and did not carry enough mutton to enable them to compete with the big Rambouillet. Of course, the Australian will not concede it, nor does he know that the time will come in the not distant future when he must

this assurance from reliable breeders who have seen both types. But the Delaine had to stand aside for the big type Rambouillet that carried more mutton. Under the influence of high-priced wool the small Merino types have tried to stage a come-back in this country but without success. So it will be in Australia.

OUTLOOK IN IDAHO

We are enjoying one of the finest falls the state of Idaho has ever seen. We have grass from the sagebrush plains to the tops of the highest hills. Our summer ranges have grown up

ried through with little extra feed. The feed in the higher hills is going to hold the sheep until snow drives them out. The foothills then will be in condition to carry along well into the winter, leaving the desert for the time when it should be used.

During the last four or five years sheep have been on the desert by the end of September, greatly reducing the amount of feed thereon before winter really sets in. This year that feed will be in reserve until such time as the snow covers the grasses. The pastures also in the irrigated valleys will not be in so much demand as they have been during the dry years we have ex-

perienced and they themselves carry a reserve of feed which is not inconsiderable.

Hay is being offered at considerably less prices than prevailed ten days ago. The export demand is good and will help to stabilize prices, where shipping facilities are obtainable. But hay at a distance from a railroad will go cheaper.

Scab is becoming more and more prevalent, outbreaks having occurred in sheep shipped from Hill City and Ketchum yards. This is an unfortunate condition of affairs, as the greater part of the sheep in south central Idaho are shipped from those two loading points. Fortunately, however, the bands in which scab developed did not arrive at those places until late in the season.

HUGH SPROAT.

WYOMING WOOL VALUES

We have the report of the grading and appraisal in Boston of a clip of wool shipped from Douglas, Wyoming, and the following are the particulars of this grading and appraisal:

5,818 pounds, fine staple	59½ cents
11,445 pounds half-blood	
staple	63½ cents
4,835 pounds three-eighths-	
blood staple	62¼ cents
977 pounds quarter-blood	
staple	64¾ cents
86 pounds, braid	52 cents
6540 pounds, fine clothing	54½ cents
3250 pounds, one-half-blood	
clothing	61½ cents
127 pounds, fine black wool	50 cents
90 pounds, crossbred black	55 cents
167 pounds, dead wool	45 cents
1,328 pounds, tags	20 cents
87 sacks	50 cents each

This is an excellent demonstration of the necessity of grading wool under the American system. It will be noted that the grades of wool range from 20 cents a pound for tags up to 64¾ cents a pound for a quarter-blood staple. Nearly all of the wool that is being appraised by the government is being graded by the wool dealers under this standard before appraisal.

WHY NOT LEICESTERS

One of our readers asks: "Why is it the Leicester breed of sheep has never been tried in this country when it is so popular in the rest of the world?"

Our reader is mistaken. The Leicester, both English and Border, has been repeatedly tried in the United States, but it has always failed to make any headway for perfectly good reasons. The English Leicester resembles the Lincoln and Cotswold, but is inferior to either of these breeds in every important particular. It is much smaller, shears less and is of a more delicate constitution. In point of quality its wool is about like the Lincoln. Many of our breeders have imported Leicesters in days gone by, but few of them now remain. Away back in 1888 a registry book for Leicesters was organized in this country, but we have not heard of it in recent years. In foreign lands, including its own home in Britain, the Leicester has lost out. Official reports show its numbers to be declining steadily. Canada has imported many Leicesters but few purebred specimens now remain in that country. We do not see any field for the Leicester in this country, for there is nothing it can do that the Lincoln and Cotswold cannot do better.

CONDITIONS IN NEW MEXICO

Range conditions have improved throughout the state, due to general rains that have fallen during the past week. It is the general opinion of all the old time sheepmen here that while the rains were a little late, yet not too late to insure ample winter range, and an assurance of early grass in the spring.

With the drought broken, there yet remains a very serious matter confronting the sheepmen of New Mexico, that should be settled within the very near future, if we are to be enabled to in any degree attempt to increase the production of wool and mutton, that is the establishing of a fair price on the nation's wool clip during the period of the war and including one year thereafter. While a good

many have lost thousands of dollars this year, due to unfavorable weather conditions, under which, with wool at the fixed price and lambs at prevailing prices, they could not begin to pay their expenses, they are generally satisfied with the price established on wool for the past year, believing it to be reasonable from the standpoint of patriotism.

If the government sees fit to take over the wool situation as suggested above, the price should be established only after due consideration of the ever increasing cost of maintenance, and also of the necessity of the price being established that will enable the flockmaster to obtain credit with which to meet his obligations every thirty days. I believe I can safely say without contradiction, that there isn't a man engaged in the business of raising sheep in New Mexico, who is not anxious to sell all of his holdings, if he could get anything like what they are really worth. This condition of affairs could be greatly improved, and the sheepmen encouraged, by a fair price being established on wool during the period of the war and including one year thereafter, and through liberal assistance being rendered direct from the War Finance Corporation to those especially in the drought stricken district, who have the feed, and are men with ability and experience, and a willingness to do their utmost in aiding the government in the prosecution of the war.

Some returns have been coming in on early shipments of wool, and while those wools were appraised at satisfactory prices, the appraisement on the later wools created a good deal of dissatisfaction, since the growers anticipated returns in proportion to the first shipments. The raising of the shrinkages on the later wools was a great shock to many, and caused a loss on the clip of one company alone in this district of \$20,000.

Some mixed lambs have sold here for \$6 to \$6.50 per head, and 12½ to 13 cents per pound, and several thousand good ewes could be obtained for from \$11 to \$12.

PRAGER MILLER, Roswell, N. M.

THE AUSTRALIAN WOOL CLIP

By R. H. Harrowell.

As the new season has now commenced it is interesting to view the past year in the light of a statement just issued by the Federal authorities.

The report states that the total quantity of wool submitted for appraisement in 1917-1918 amounted to:

Bales	Weight lb.
Greasy	1,672,483
Scoured	201,924
Total	1,874,407

616,969,923

The average price per pound of the wool appraised in a greasy state is 30

The total value (at the flat rate) of all wool submitted for appraisement during the season was \$214,516,875. The charge to cover handling costs was the same as in 1916-17, namely 1 1/4 cents per pound.

A distribution of 15 per cent amounting to \$30,473,465, covering both 10 per cent retention money, and 5 per cent dividend was made on August 21st.

Wool growers were advised to keep all documents for appraisement in the 1917-18 season.

Sales of interest in the wool pool would not be allowed under any circumstances, nor would speculation in

is so scarce. It is imperative that Australian wool growers should assist in every way possible to conserve the available shipping tonnage. Dalgety & Co. Ltd. deal with this matter in their last Annual Review, and point out that the tendency for some years past throughout Australia, and particularly in Victoria, has been in the direction of putting less wool into the bale than formerly. In Victoria the average weight of a greasy bale is now only about 300 pounds and a large number of bales weigh only 200-250 pounds gross, whereas in bygone years the average weight was nearer 350 pounds per bale. This decrease in the



Some Hobbs & Gillette Ewes at Castle Ford, Idaho

cents per pound, and of wool appraised in a scoured state 51 1/4 cents per pound. The average price per pound of all wool, calculated as greasy was 29 1/2 cents. The difference between this average and the flat rate of 31 cents to be paid by the Imperial government was equal to 5.59 per cent of the average appraised price of 30 cents.

After allocating wool sufficient to meet the requirements of local manufacturers, the balance purchased by the Imperial government amounted to:

Bales	Weight lb.	Value £
Greasy	1,627,360	553,713,279
Scoured	197,246	46,196,661
Totals	1,824,606	599,909,940

34,619,565

4,956,855

wool equities be permitted.

The appraisement of sheep skins has proved most difficult, and the success looked for in 1917-18 was not achieved, but a radical change has been decided upon for the coming year. The appraisement method will be suspended, and purchase in the open market will be substituted for such skins as are required by the Director of Raw Materials for military and naval purposes only.

I do not know whether the matter of baling wool is creating much interest in America, but it has become a matter of very great importance to Australia, in these days when freight

average weight has no doubt been caused partly by the increase in the number of small growers, who, being without presses, have packed their bales loosely, but it is also partly due to the influence of certain arguments which have impressed the grower with the idea that the lighter the bale the better the price he realized for his wool. This fallacious argument has had some influence, and the direct result has been a reduction in the average weight per bale.

If a proper press is used in packing there should be no difficulty in putting at least 350 pounds of greasy wool into a bale, which when properly

packed, should measure about 24 cubic feet, while the badly packed bale, carrying only 200 pounds to 300 pounds of wool would measure about 36 cubic feet. This difference in the cubic contents of the bale is a serious factor to the wool stores. In the coming season, when space in the ordinary wool warehouses will be severely taxed, indifferently packed bales will only intensify the difficulty.

The position with the shipping tonnage, however, is very much more serious. When the badly packed bale is dumped it takes up far more space in the ship than the well dumped bale; in other words, a good square dump is the result of a well-packed bale, weighing 250 pounds and upwards, whereas a badly-packed bale, known to stevedores as a "sowdow" or "sew-down" becomes when dumped, an irregular sized package. As a result of special attention given to dumping and double dumping, the storage of wool has been very much improved, and, compared with pre-war conditions, a space-saving of from 10 to 15 per cent has been effected. It is estimated that if proper attention is paid by the grower to the packing of wool, the average size both of the single-dumped bale and the double-dumped bale might be reduced at least a further 10 per cent, with a consequent increase in the carrying capacity of the steamers.

One has only to think for a moment what this would represent on the total wool clip of Australia, estimated for the 1917-18 season at 2,000,000 bales. A saving of 10 per cent is equal to 200,000 bales, and would be equivalent to 10 average steamer cargoes. The reduced weights of woolpacks to be carried, if 200,000 less were used, would be 1,000 tons dead weight, and there would be correspondingly less tonnage to be carried from India to Australia, as well as from Australia abroad, while the saving in the cost of packs alone would amount to about \$200,000.

AROUND MOAB, UTAH

D. L. Goudlock, manager of the Indian Creek Cattle Company, head-

quarters at Moab, and which company operates in a vast stretch of isolated territory east of the Grand River, remote from railroads, arrived at the Missouri River markets with twelve carloads of lambs and cull sheep October 19. Mr. Goudlock said that in his section they depend almost entirely on range feeds for handling their herds, and that this year the winter range in the desert is not very good, though the summer season was favorable, and the sheep have been doing well. Because of the partial failure of the winter range, sheep herds were culled closer this season than usual, and a smaller percentage of the total strength of sheep herds in what is known as the eastern desert territory in Utah will be carried through the coming winter than is customary.—J. A. R.

WOOL APPRAISEMENTS

The following appraisals of Western wools have been recently made in Boston:

	Oregon	Shrink-	Grease	age	Clean	%
12,000 lbs. average $\frac{1}{2}$						
blood	\$.71 $\frac{3}{4}$	56	\$ 1.63			
Arizona.						
30 bags inferior fine						
medium	.53 $\frac{1}{2}$	67	1.62			
Colorado						
106 bags inferior to						
average fine me-						
dium	.56 $\frac{3}{4}$	65	1.62			
New Mexico						
34 bags inferior fine						
clothing	.43 $\frac{3}{4}$	73	1.62			
Idaho						
43 bags choice fine						
to medium cloth-						
ing	.64 $\frac{1}{2}$	62	1.70			

AGRICULTURE INCLUDES SHEEP RAISING

Provost Marshall General E. H. Crowder, has ruled that the word "agriculture" as used in the revised Selective Service Regulations, Rule XX, includes cattle and sheep raising enterprises.

We quote below from a letter received from Provost Marshall General E. H. Crowder.

"You will note by referring to Rule XX of the enclosed pamphlet that district boards are directed to place in Class II-C 'any registrant found to be engaged in a 'necessary' agricultural enterprise and found to be 'necessary' to such enterprise in the capacity of a farm laborer especially fitted for the work in which he is engaged. A district board is therefore not required to find that a registrant is a skilled farm laborer in order to entitle him to be placed in Class II, but only that he is especially fitted for the work in which he is engaged. In view of the language used in the revised edition of the regulations, there appears to be no necessity for an 'authoritative construction' of the word 'skilled.'

"So far as the comprehensiveness of the word 'agriculture' is concerned, this office has repeatedly ruled, and district boards have uniformly held, that cattle and sheep raising enterprises are considered agricultural enterprises within the meaning of the regulations."

In order that no injustice might be done the sheep-raising industry by improper classification of employees, we suggest that you communicate with the agricultural advisors to your district draft board and furnish them with complete information regarding any person in your employ whom you believe is justly entitled to exemption.

LEWIS PENWELL,
Chief of Wool Section, War
Industries Board.

IDAHO WOOLS APPRAISED

We have the following report of the government's appraisement in Boston of a large Idaho clip:

120,000 pounds, fine and fine medium clothing, 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents.
40,000 pounds, fine staple, 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents.
250,000 pounds, half-blood, 62 cents.
200,000 pounds, three-eighths blood, 63 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents.
60,000 pounds, quarter-blood, 62 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents.

OCTOBER WEATHER ON WESTERN RANGES

J. Cecil Alter.

This was one of the finest months of fall weather for many years, according to reports reaching the U. S. Weather Bureau, from all Western states. Copious showers, coming at good intervals and in moderate amounts, well distributed over all districts, were reported:

Temperatures well above the seasonal average prevailed everywhere until about the 22nd when a cold snap moved southward from western Canada, crossing Montana on the 23rd, Idaho and Wyoming on the 24th, Ne-

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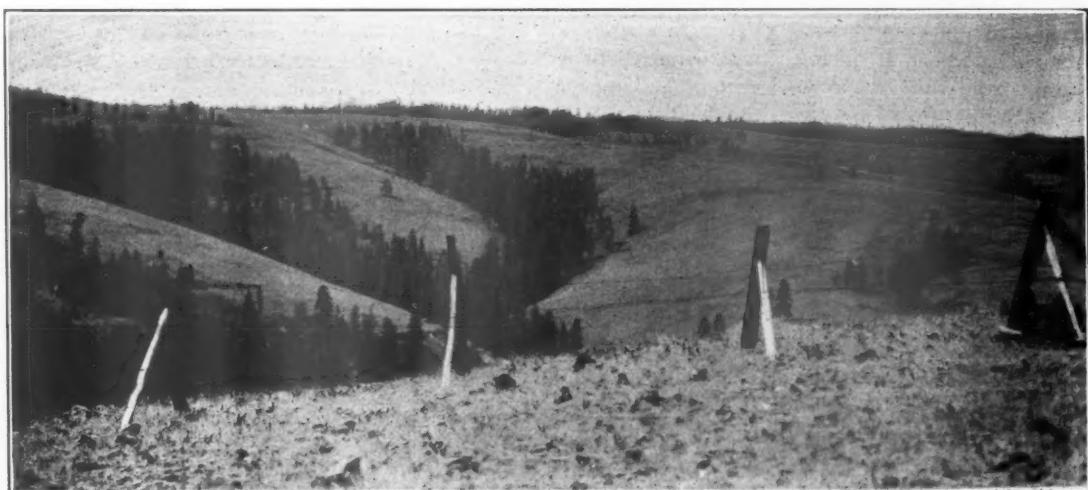
on 25-26th. Practically all stock off the National Forests, and sheep filling up winter ranges. Range prospects: Duchesne, fair; Ouray, good; Vernal, fairly good; Watson, good; Moab, poor; Emery, good; Escalante, poor; Modena, fair; Black Rock, fair; Deseret, fair; Levan, fair; Grantsville, very good; Kelton, good.

Nevada—Showers were only locally helpful, but temperatures were mild until the 25-26th when killing frost occurred generally. Range prospects: Tonopah, good; Winnemucca, more green feed than for years, fall weather very beneficial; Elko, fair to good, rain in past two months very helpful to range; McGill, fair.

Colorado—Rainfall somewhat deficient, though light showers helped some; temperature moderate until killing frost with some snow toward end of month. Conditions on range, fair to good in eastern part; western portion, feed dry and short.

Arizona—Some range deterioration in southwest and southeast due to close grazing first half of month; latter half, ample rains replenished the waterholes and additional grazing was made available; a marked change for the better was also noted in the northeastern counties, and on the Arizona strip.

New Mexico—Fine rains were well distributed through the month and



An Oregon Sheep Range

vada, Utah and Colorado on the 25th, and Arizona, New Mexico and western Texas on the 26th and 27th, lasting for two or three days, and brought the growing season abruptly to an end with hard frosts. At this time snow fell generally, over all the mountains and some lowlands, the Texas Panhandle district receiving about 4 inches.

Practically all the National Forests were vacated during the month, and sheep in large numbers were spreading out over the winter ranges. The supply of new grass was considerably increased during the month, and a general improvement in both stock and ranges resulted.

Utah—Ample showers and warmth kept grass growing until killing frost

Idaho—Numerous good showers, especially in south half, very beneficial. New grass grew rapidly and late fall feed excellent. Range prospects, fair in north; Burley, very good, better than for some time, fall rain and warmth very helpful; Pocatello, fall range good, National Forests practically empty; Idaho Falls, good; Boise, good; Oakley, good.

Wyoming—Light showers did some good in eastern and southern portions; fine mild weather until 24-27th when hard frosts were general. Range condition: Sheridan, excellent, unusually favorable season, ample rain, no drought periods, late frost, range not closely fed; Green River, stock looking good.

over the state pretty well, causing a marked improvement in the range. Some snow and cold weather occurred on the 26-27th. The condition and prospects on the range are, good in northern counties, especially in the northeast; fair in western and central districts, and largely poor in the south, especially in the southeast.

Western Texas—Fine weather with ample rains occurred in the Texas Panhandle district, and ranges were good, though about four inches of snow fell on the 26-27th with low temperatures. Ranges are poor and conditions bad in parts of the southwestern counties.

Montana—Fine month, and grass grew until the hard freeze of the 22-

26th. Some light precipitation, mostly in the western portion, helped some. Prospects in the northern counties, fair.

Eastern Washington and Oregon— Good rains in late summer, and fall, resulted in excellent conditions in southeastern Washington and northeastern Oregon. The range is better than for many years, and prospects are very good. Showers were comparatively light but were well distributed over both states, and the temperature was mild until near the end of the month.

GRADED COLORADO WOOLS

Large lines of Colorado wools have recently been graded and the following appraisements made thereon at Boston. The wools came from different owners:

Fine clothing, 60½ cents.
One-half blood staple, 64½ cents.
One-half blood clothing, 61½ cents.
Three-eighths blood, 61 cents.
Low quarter, 58½ cents.

WOOLEN MACHINERY

The National Association of Wool Manufacturers recently issued a report showing the amount of engaged and idle woolen machinery and the percentage engaged in the manufacture of war clothing. Of the woolen and worsted spindles in the country about 14 per cent was idle on October 1st. This is about double the amount idle on March 1st of this year. Of the total number engaged on October 1st 59 per cent was working on war orders and 41 per cent engaged in the manufacture of civilian goods.

AUSTRALIAN SHEEP PRICES

In the Sydney, Australian market the following are the quotations for market sheep:

Best crossbred wethers per head, \$8.50 to \$9.75.

Best crossbred ewes per head \$8.50 to \$10.75.

Best lambs per head, \$8.50 to \$10.25.

THE LAMB SITUATION

President Hagenbarth advises us that he has been investigating the lamb market in Chicago and other large market centers with a view to devising a check on the disastrous declines in values which occur periodically. The drop in prices the latter half of September and during October of this year was abrupt and serious and caused a great loss to growers. Undoubtedly the blockade of lambs at river points caused by the Union Pacific and other roads refusing to allow their cars to go beyond the river started the trouble. Sixty-five thousand lambs in one day on the Omaha market broke prices and the market never recovered. When the embargo was lifted there was a flood of lambs sent on to Chicago which accentuated the decline.

Mr. Hagenbarth called upon the packers for help in sustaining prices. They came to the rescue perhaps as far as could be expected under present marketing conditions. One concern, the largest sheep and lamb killing packer, showed their killing, buying and selling records to Mr. Hagenbarth. These showed for the week ending October 19, a loss of 67 cents per head on lambs killed and sold from Chicago plant to outside markets and a loss of \$1.18 per head when sold to city market. Another concern showed a loss of 46 cents per head. These losses were made on prime fat lambs. Cull lambs and sheep showed a profit.

President Hagenbarth found that this packer's wholesale price to butchers by week's averages was as follows on dressed lamb and sheep:

Average for week ending September 28 was \$25.69; week ending October 5, \$23.40; week ending October 12, \$22.13 and week ending October 19, \$21.58.

This decline in lambs had been in a large measure passed by the packer on to the butcher.

Mr. Hagenbarth attempted to learn if the butcher or retailer in turn passed on the lower prices to the consumer and requested the Bureau of Markets

to investigate. Very little knowledge was gained in this direction. Some large retailers and some department stores made reductions. In some cases prices were not lowered, but there was a general tendency toward lower retail prices.

During August the commission men began a campaign for lower lamb prices all over the country. Country feeders were led to believe lambs were too high. Colorado feeders are short 1,000,000 head of lambs on the date this is written, the last of October. Thousands of lambs went to slaughter that were only fit to feed. This will result in a great economic loss of meat to the country and a loss of millions in money to the stockmen. The wool grower must pay in cash for bad railroad management and for the shortsightedness of the commission men.

Mr. Hagenbarth also made an investigation of the lamb chilling and lamb freezing problems. He found that chilled lamb, as called for by the American trade, could not be held to exceed ten days to two weeks. After that time lamb and mutton turn dark in color, dry out and take on a taint and are only marketable to the cheapest trade.

Frozen lamb is entirely practical and can be kept six months or longer without deterioration. There are two serious drawbacks to freezing—first, the cost; second, the slimy product when thawed out or exposed to air. Take, for instance, a lamb on foot at 18 cents per pound. When killed and dressed, this lamb must be placed in the freezer market to cost 25 cents per pound to let the packer out with a small profit. It costs three-fourths of a cent per pound per month to carry the frozen meat and when sold it entails a penalty of two cents per pound below fresh chilled lamb. Thus after four months' storage, frozen lamb costing 18 cents on foot would have to sell at 28 cents a pound to break even and this would mean a 30-cent wholesale market for fresh chilled lamb, which looks like a cost which would kill consumption.

Our president likewise looked into the army and cantonment consumption

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

of lamb. Colonel MacIntosh, who has charge, assured him that it had been tried and not over 20 per cent of the men had been educated to eat lamb and objected to its introduction as a ration. Educational work may correct this. Prospects for lambs now on feed are good and all feeders should make money this season.

MUTTON AND THE ARMY

J. E. Poole.

Why not include lamb and mutton in the training camp ration? Every possible effort is being made by the Food Administration to stimulate pork production and encourage the hog grower.

dollar per hundredweight of the break that demoralized the market at that juncture and "the boys" would have had a welcome variation in their ration. It has been properly said that "Nothing is too good for the soldier," and when he is given lamb he will get the most palatable meat possible.

One trouble with both lamb and sheep trade this season is that it has been denied the benefit of government buying. For a brief period mutton was bought for the navy, but in limited quantities and packers ceased bidding for contracts. Said one of them: "Last spring we took a contract for 100,000 pounds of mutton for the navy. The government could take all, part, none

bought heavy mutton for the navy feeders took this as their cue, laid in thin Western sheep at \$11@12 per hundredweight and proceeded to fatten them on the theory that they had a cinch, but when the stuff was fat, discovery was made that the navy had dispensed with mutton and that they had no place to put the product. The result was heavy loss, \$11 being a good price for fat wethers in October and packers did not want them at that. Just why the use of this meat was discontinued has never been made known; probably the navy people concluded that if the army could not use it they were justified in exclusion. Change in policy has certainly been a cause of



Some Romneys of J. H. Patrick & Son, Ilderton, Canada

Why not hold out similar encouragement to the sheep breeder?

Adjacent to Chicago for instance are two great camps: Grant at Rockford, Illinois, and the Great Lakes naval training station just north of the city. These are so located that lamb and mutton could have been delivered in fresh condition daily at less money than beef costs the government. At the time early in October when a bargain sale was in progress in the sheep market, hogs were selling at \$20 per hundredweight and cattle, such as were suited to army specifications, were scarce. Had lamb and mutton been utilized during that period, it would have been possible to avert at least one

or more. We actually delivered about 10,000 pounds, but were under the necessity of carrying a stock in case we were called on to make deliveries. They might have required 50,000 or 150,000 pounds, in which case we would have been under the necessity of bidding up the market. Had we laid in a heavy stock the chances are that it would have been necessary to throw it on the market at a loss and if there is one commodity harder to sell than another it is heavy mutton. Butchers will take light sheep carcasses at their own price and foist it on their customers as lamb, but there is always a limited outlet for big wethers."

Last summer when the government

loss both to the breeder and feeder. There would be less cause for complaint if beef and pork had been cheap, but the reverse was the case, in fact, most of the time difficulty was experienced in getting enough decent beef.

It is true that small quantities of lamb are used at the training camps, but its consumption is confined to officers' mess and cuts but small figure. At going prices there would actually have been economy in its use during September and October and on the score of quality or palatability no room for argument exists. Lambs that packers were compelled to freeze by the thousand would have furnished

more toothsome meat than much of the beef or cured hog product that was used. At the officers' mess it is considered a luxury and yet the government would have saved money by furnishing it for the rank and file.

At a hog conference in Washington recently, packers raised the point that about 16 per cent of the hog must go into fresh meat channels and the Food Administration promptly came to the relief by a decree that fresh pork should enter into the training camp ration whenever an excess existed. Now between fresh pork and lamb or mutton there is little difference as to the size of the package, and lamb may be cooked in more ways than pork, increasing its usefulness. The restaurant man has long since learned the popularity of lamb stew, an appetizing dish that would have varied training camp "chow" admirably. The opportunity has passed, but it would have been an excellent one to take care of the sheepman at the critical time when the market was paralyzed and growers were forced to stand heavy loss.

War demand has benefited the sheep grower little. It may be contended that the use of enormous quantities of beef and pork for military and export purposes has created a domestic outlet for mutton that would not have existed otherwise, but this is far-fetched as the sphere of usefulness for mutton is limited. Results show that the public bought beef and pork, regardless of cost, but let mutton alone.

Efforts by the Food Administration to stimulate the use of pork were laudable, but mutton should have had the benefit of the same propaganda. Last spring when the bottom threatened to drop out of the hog market, packers appealed to the Food Administration for assistance in protecting the market. Financial relief was furnished through the agency of the Federal Reserve Banks, the public was admonished to eat more pork and a critical period was tided over. When the lamb market collapsed the only relief was afforded by the freezer, which was of doubtful utility. A few million pounds of mutton and lamb might have been substituted for high-priced beef

and pork in the training camp ration at that juncture with economy to the government, advantage to the grower and gratification to the embryo-soldier and sailor. It would be possible to use large quantities of mutton on Atlantic transports, but exclusion is practiced.

The country needed more hogs and got them when the industry was stimulated. A similar policy could be adopted toward the sheepman with good results.

FINE WYOMING FEED

Sheep are all doing fine. We have had a very good summer season and the fall and winter range is good. We have plenty of hay for winter feeding for all the sheep in this neighborhood. Nearly all of the sheep have been dipped for ticks. We have no diseases of any kind among them.

R. L. PREATOR, Wyoming.

ABOUT SHEARING MACHINERY

In the last issue of the Wool Grower there is an article entitled "Plenty of Shearing Machines," and from perusing it, one might imagine that if manufacturers of shearing machinery obtain a rating which gives them priority in obtaining steel, all of their troubles are solved.

However, we take the liberty of pointing out that such is far from being the case. Foundries are practically all working on government orders, and it is hard to get attention from them. Freight service is in a badly congested condition. Numbers of our experienced workmen are being taken by the draft, and we must take care of our allotment of government business, which takes precedence over everything.

Therefore, under the circumstances, might we ask you to publish these facts, so that parties interested will be advised of the true conditions of affairs. Protection from disappointment and delay can only be ensured by placing orders as quickly as possible.

CHICAGO FLEXIBLE SHAFT CO.

A NEW SHEEP BOOK

Recently J. B. Lippincott & Company of Philadelphia brought from the press a new publication entitled "Productive Sheep Husbandry," written by Professor W. C. Coffey of the University of Illinois. We have examined the publication and consider it the best book on sheep husbandry that has come before us. Professor Coffey is the best known of any of the sheep experts among the agricultural college men and has had a wider experience than any of them. He is familiar with Western conditions and enjoys the confidence of Western wool growers. His Western experience makes his book of value to Western sheepmen and we have no doubt that large numbers of them will secure this volume. The book may be had by sending \$2.50 to J. B. Lippincott & Company of Philadelphia.

IN THE ARKANSAS VALLEY

A normal winter feeding season in the Arkansas valley in Colorado means between 300,000 and 350,000 lambs and sheep finished by the end of the season. Feeders in this valley usually buy New Mexico feeding lambs of light weight, and put them up for long feeds, the lambs from this valley being among the last to reach the spring market, some of them as late as May. So far this fall the feeders have bought very few lambs, Elmer Wagner, who will be the biggest feeder in the valley, having made no purchases up to the last week in October, though he expects to feed 12,000 head. Another big feeder in that valley bought 10,000 northern New Mexico lambs the first part of October at 10 cents a pound, but he has resold them to smaller feeders at an average of 11½ cents a pound. No one will make an estimate on the probable number of lambs and sheep that will be fed in the Arkansas valley this year, except that the total will be below normal.—J. A. R.

The Ram Sale is over—next comes the National Wool Growers Conven-

Boston Wool Market

By Our Boston Correspondent

Peace talk looms large in public attention, and as a result discussion in the wool trade tends more and more to the consideration of after-the-war problems. Opinion strengthens that the future prosperity of the trade depends in large measure on the way these are treated during the coming months. It seems to be understood that England and America has made some kind of a working agreement for the control of the world's wool market, but it is by no means certain that England may not get the lion's share of the advantage owing to her control of the wool clips of Australia, New Zealand and (probably) South Africa. This is one of the uncertain factors in the after-war situation, whose effect cannot be definitely forecasted at this time. Yet it is of prime importance to the wool and wool manufacturing industries of this country.

Nothing is more certain than that there is bound to be sharp competition in the world's markets following the declaration of peace, and other things being equal, the country whose manufacturers have access to the cheapest sources of raw material will possess an immense advantage over their competitors. To a considerable extent, England possesses this advantage on account of her contract, which assures her control of the Australasian clip for an extended period. It is true that the price she pays for the wool is about 50 per cent above the average for the three wool years immediately preceding the beginning of the war, but compared with the prices ruling for domestic wool in this country, it is undoubtedly a low figure.

No thoughtful member of the wool trade expects to see pre-war prices in American markets for some time to come, whatever may be the result of the peace negotiations, though there will probably be more or less disturbance in trade circles, and possibly wide fluctuations in values. Even if peace is declared at an earlier period than now seems probable, it will be a long time before the Allied armies can be

safely demobilized, and this means continued activity in the Quartermaster's department, and large wool requirements. These considerations indicate that England can give her manufacturers a tremendous advantage in the coming trade war. She will have plenty of cheap wool, while the United States will be hampered by the high prices at which the domestic clip is selling.

While wool has been relatively scarce in this country, and there has been some fear that the supply needed for the outfitting of the army might run short, this is not true the world over. Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have an immense volume of unshipped wool piled up at the principal shipping ports, for which the tonnage is not yet available. U-boat activities have had a considerable effect in delaying the shipment of these wools, and the necessity of diverting the bulk of the available tonnage to the carrying of men, munitions and food, and other army and civilian supplies to Europe, has caused the complete dislocation of all the ordinary and usual methods for the distribution of the world's wool supply. With the coming of peace there will be a gradual release of shipping, and a similar return to normal conditions in the shipment of wool from the main sources of supply.

There can be no doubt that this readjustment will be attended by trade disturbances of a serious character, and no wool man is wise enough, or rash enough, to prophesy what they may be. It will be sufficient for most wool men not to be left in the position of having to support a great weight of the staple on a purely fictitious basis of prices. From the outsider's standpoint, it would seem that the action of the government in taking over the wool supply of the country has lifted an immense responsibility from the wool trade, and has placed the burden of maintaining values on its own agencies and the wool growers. It is apparent that nothing but a

policy of the purchase of wool by the government for an indefinite period can be relied upon to keep domestic wool prices on the present high level in competition with Colonial wools that would be shortly available.

Thus, if it was considered necessary to sustain wool values, the government would be confronted with the problem of buying the domestic wool clip on an inflated basis and selling it to manufacturers at a loss, or with returning to the policy of a protective tariff. In the latter case, manufacturers would be effectually barred out of foreign markets, while in either case the grievous burden of taxation, already certain to follow the war in a long tail, would be added to. Attention has already been called to the fact that there has never been a commitment of the government to the policy of wool buying indefinitely. All official statements from Washington, so far as they have been made public, have made it plain that the only object sought was to secure a supply of wool sufficient for the needs of the army and navy.

England has agreed to take over the wool clips of Australia and New Zealand for a full wool year after peace is declared. Under that agreement, she will control the Colonial wool supply until the end of June, 1920, at least. No such agreement has been made in this country, though a demand has been made in certain quarters that such action should be taken. Right here is the essential difference between the two countries as to prices. England can well afford to guarantee an average price of 15½ pence in Australasia, but for the United States to guarantee present prices in this country would be suicidal from a business standpoint.

While after-war considerations are attracting much attention in the wool trade, most of the wool houses, being naturally anxious as to the rehabilitation of their business after the period of government control is ended, such discussion is for the present purely

academic, as it is well understood that the first move must be made by the government, and it is not yet clear whether the country is to have a socialistic and paternal government, as at present, or a free government, as in the past. Therefore, the only thing the wool trade can do is to "sit tight," keep up their organizations, as far as government regulations and financial resources will allow, and by care and diligence try to avoid too serious losses.

It must not be understood from the above that the wool trade is looking so far ahead as to overlook the possibilities and dangers of the present. On the contrary, a very close watch is being kept of the situation. Since the regulations were formulated regarding the handling of the current wool clip, there have been such increases in the cost of doing business as to wipe out all chance of profit, except in a very few cases. It is not known just what protest will be put up to Washington on this point, but that something will be done in regard to the handling of the 1919 clip is certain. In this particular, the local wool trade is going forward as though the war were likely to continue indefinitely.

Most significant of recent moves in this direction was the action taken at a recent joint meeting of the Executive Committee of the Boston Wool Trade Association and the War Emergency Committee of the wool trade, when Acting President Samuel G. Adams was authorized to appoint a committee "to consider and suggest plans for the handling of the clip of 1919, provided the government decides to handle it." As later announced, this committee includes Arthur E. Gill, of Dewey, Gould & Co., chairman; Louis Baer, of Eisemann Bros.; Frank W. Hallowell, of Hallowell, Jones & Donald; Jesse Koshland, of J. Koshland & Co.; William Patterson, of Patterson & Co.; Charles W. Ryder, of the Crimmins & Peirce Co.; and Fred M. Blanchard.

Nothing official has yet emanated from this committee, nor is it likely that anything will be forthcoming until its conclusions have been submitted

to a mass meeting of the wool trade, and possibly not until they have been submitted to Washington. There is no reticence, however, on the part of other members of the trade in expressing their belief in the necessity for material changes in the present plan for handling domestic wool, some going so far as to express the opinion that the government wool plan, both foreign and domestic, is all wrong, and needs reforming altogether.

This does not apply to the work of the Wool Administrator or to the way the valuation of the wool has been done here in Boston. Details of the plan have been handled locally in an admirable way, but there are certain vexatious details in the main plan which it is desired to have reformed, while the rates of commission are entirely inadequate for the character of the service required. Whatever is done, there will be no haste about it, and when the protest is presented, if the trade ever gets to that point, it will be with a united front.

It is recognized here that the trade has nothing to do with the price to be paid the grower, as that is entirely a matter between the government and the wool growers, and there is no intention of interfering. Some relief must be had before another season, or many houses must either go to the wall, or shut down. Another season will apparently see all chance of doing business in foreign wool eliminated, which alone has made it possible to show a balance on the right side of the ledger this year. Already some of the leading houses are considering the advisability of becoming simply warehousemen; some have already done so, as they saw no chance for profit in trade.

The work of valuing and taking over the domestic clip, and also the valuation of the foreign wools now arriving freely, is going on steadily. Distribution is also being speeded up as much as possible, though the influenza epidemic has greatly interfered with grading and shipping. From 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 pounds of wool are being allotted each week, latterly the bulk of the domestic allotments being on

the fine side. In spite of the assurance from those familiar with the work that an absolutely impartial and just appraisement is being secured, there continues to be many complaints filed with the various consignees regarding the appraised values.

Strangely enough, a large number of the protests are based, not on the actual figures, but on the fact that the consignor got less than his neighbor, or possibly that he did not realize his expectation of getting more than the neighbor. One case is cited, where the consignor waited for weeks beyond the ten-day period within which objections must be made, and then registered a kick because his neighbor got as much as he did. Such objections are frivolous, of course, because each man's wool is being valued by experts who have no personal interest in the matter, beyond the desire to have their work above reproach.

Just what prices are being placed on individual clips is not being given out here, and are known only to the consignee, the valuation unit and the Wool Administrator. It might be thought that this is giving the matter wide publicity, and it would be so under normal conditions, but the secret is being loyally kept now, however much those concerned may differ regarding the necessity of such a policy of silence. About the only way that a comprehensive view of values can be obtained, is as they filter through from the West, the National Wool Grower having been of particular value in this direction.

Arrivals of wool from the West have fallen off very materially, but there continued to be great congestion, as it seems to be impossible to get the wool out fast enough to relieve storage conditions. Every available storage warehouse is filled to overflowing, and the various houses have found great difficulty in getting space enough for economical and speedy grading and valuation. Foreign wools have also been arriving freely—27,861,735 pounds in October, compared with 5,757,813 pounds for the same month last year. An increasing proportion of the foreign wools

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

arriving already belong to the government, and have to be valued only for distribution purposes. Yet it has been found necessary to open the new Quartermaster's Stores at South Boston for wool storage to relieve the congestion.

Latest advices are that the new buying commission that is to represent the government in South American markets has arrived at Buenos Aires, and will at once take over the work that has lately been done by the syndicate of six Boston houses. It is estimated that the purchases of the syndicate have been 35,000 to 40,000 bales, or approximately 35,000,000 to 40,000,000 pounds of wool. All grades have been represented in this total, and not only the grades 44s to 56s, which are most desired for government work. These grades are said to be scarce in the Buenos Aires market. At Montevideo, trading has been restricted, owing to unfavorable exchange rates. Conflicting stories are afloat as to the prices paid by the syndicate buyers, the houses interested taking the ground that other houses had no business to know what was going on, while the various government agencies are reported to have received orders from Washington not to give out any information while it is of interest.

Shipping is more plentiful, and a consequent increase in receipts is noted, total from South America direct to Boston for October being 15,185 bales, or 16,703,500 pounds, and from South Africa, 19,041 bales, or 7,616,400 pounds. This is supplemented by large arrivals of South American wools at New York, which were later transhipped to Boston. This indicates that the United States Shipping Board is getting a good grasp of the situation, and that hereafter less trouble will be noted from lack of tonnage.

One important event of the month must not be omitted mention, as it is expected to have a tremendous bearing on the whole wool situation in this country. Arrangements have been completed between the British and American governments by which the latter is to be allotted 100,000 bales of

fine Australian Merinos and 100,000 bales New Zealand crossbreds, or approximately 60,000,000 pounds. It is understood that this allotment is part of an agreement, by which the United States is to keep out of South Africa, in order that the British government may have a free hand in coming to an agreement with the farmers in that Colony, as has already been done in Australasia. A similar arrangement is reported to have been made with Japan. Consequently it is expected that the British government will be able to get the bulk of the South African clip this year.

Another important matter has been the advancement of the government's wool program, by which a prospective shut down of mills before the first of January has been avoided. Contracts that were to have been held until March are to be given out in November, and this is expected to relieve the situation. At a meeting of the National Association of Worsted and Woolen Yarn Spinners, held in New York October 16, reports were presented from the fifty-four members of the association, showing that 72 per cent of the mills represented would be obliged to close before the beginning of the new year, unless the government placed large orders for army goods, and furnished the wool therefor, or made liberal allotments for civilian work. As the Quartermaster Corps was not ready to do the latter, the only alternative was to advance the wool program, which has now been done.

UTAH WOOL PRICES

We have the following report of appraisements of Utah graded wools in Chicago:

Pounds		Shrink	Value
125,000	Fine	67	\$0.54½
75,000	½ blood	63	.60
48,000	¾ blood	57	.61
25,000	¼ blood	52	.62½
10,000	¼ Low	46	.63¾
40,000	Fine	65	.58
42,000	½-blood	59	.66½
47,000	¾ blood	55	.64
26,000	¼ blood	50	.65

AFFAIRS IN CALIFORNIA

I must say that in this part of the world we had a "freak" of a year. Spring was late and when the weather did clear up, with the exception of a storm at shearing along the latter part of May, we never had a drop of moisture up to the last of September. Then we had all kinds of rain, in fact, too much for the good of the sheep. Along in the middle of October the grass looked better than many years in May. This was the time when the herders were registering many kicks, as they could not hold the sheep together. Many days the sheep would split up into five bands in the timber looking for that green grass that did not seem to have any strength, and they would not eat the old grass as the rain and hot sun made it almost worthless. So most sheepmen had to pull out of the reserve fully a month earlier than in former years in order to prevent the straying of all the sheep.

Along in the hot summer we lost more sheep from caked or "blue" bag, as is the common name here for it, than we ever lost in any other year. The worst of this is that a good young ewe will get it as well as an old one. To my idea the best treatment for this trouble we have found is sweet oil or olive oil and spirits of camphor mixed. Apply and rub this mixture into the bag and at the same time milk the ewe dry, that is if you get them when they are first afflicted. But if they are allowed to go for a day or two after they first get it, in many cases you cannot get anything but a drop or two of blood. The proper thing to do is to keep the herder supplied with this oil and camphor and tell him to watch them closely and treat them when they show the first signs of the trouble. Then you can save most of them. The worst cases should be packed or hauled to a little pasture where shelter, some alfalfa hay, and grain can be provided and also a man to care for them. I tell you that with sheep at the present prices this will pay.

My wool clip was consigned and I have not received final returns on it

yet. My wool was nearly all fine but had very good length.

Hay in this part is selling at \$22 to \$25 per ton, so will not feed many sheep here except the registered and high grades. The rest will all go to the Nevada deserts where the prospects are good for this winter. Good young ewes are selling from 16 per head and up to \$20. There are very few changing hands. Everyone seems to want to hold on to what he has and would even like to increase to the limit of his range. For a time this early summer I had a notion of selling all my sheep, except what few registered ones I have, and then buy all registered sheep and run them on the ranches, most of the time in pastures; but we had a good chance to get a fine summer range, so have just doubled instead of decreased. We are paying between \$90 and \$100 for herders, and at the end of the year this counts up into big figures when the high price of food is included, and a herder must be supplied with the best or he will not stay.

More sheep have strayed this fall than I ever remember of. They wander off in little bunches of twelve or fifteen head. One outfit has lost over 100 head this way since August 25, when they shipped the lambs. Of course, most of the straying is done from outfits where the men want to stick to the blackfaces or mutton breeds. Their claims are that they come out on top with the mutton breeds, as they are so much better to handle at lambing time and average a better percentage of lambs. I do not look at it that way, as I am strictly a Merino lover. During my fifteen years around sheep, I have always been on the lambing job every year and have tried every breed that can be found in the West. I have gone back to the Merino forever.

Now, it takes a whole lot of common sense to lamb a band of sheep, also a lot of work. From my experience, the reason that these herders prefer to lamb a band of mutton breeds is that they are too strong on using dogs at lambing to save themselves work. One herder can have as

many as half a dozen dogs and they will not scare a mutton ewe from her new born lamb; but with the Merino it is entirely different. She will strike right out, and then, no more lamb for that ewe. When these lambs from the mutton ewes are three days old the herders can dog the life out of them and the ewes will not separate from their lambs. Around my lambing camp I find no use for a dog till the lambs are fifteen days old and they are put in a large band. Then a well-trained dog is useful. If you want to get down on the Merino, all you have to do is to lamb a band of two-year-olds and have a lot of dogs among them. Then you will lose your temper.

The Merino is a good, in fact, the very best herding sheep on earth, and for a while at lambing one does not need a dog around. Without a dog I am sure a very good percentage of lambs will be obtained. After they are all lambed and ready for the hills, they are the best sheep to handle on earth, but with the mutton breeds it is not so.

In my judgment, the best cross with the Merino ewe is the Lincoln ram. One can even save the first cross ewe lambs and they will be easily handled and will be good mothers. Put a Lincoln back on these again if you want good mutton lambs, but not to keep for ewes. The Cotswold makes a good cross, but does not seem to me to be as hardy as the Lincoln. The Hampshire is strictly a mutton breed and not to be considered for wool any more than a cow here in this brushy country, as the brush pulls so much wool. I believe that while one is in the sheep business he had better have something that will a little more than pay for the cost of shearing. However, if one winters his sheep on hay and keeps them in corrals and shears before turning them out on brush, he will get a few pounds of high-priced wool from a Hampshire, as it does not have any grease in it all, and under the new way our wool is being handled, it will soon count up. I had at one time a lot of Hampshires, really well-bred, too, from registered rams, but I never had

luck enough to stay with them. Today I only own a few for crossing, as without a doubt they are hard to beat for mutton.

I did not intend to branch out on the different breeds of sheep, but I am always glad to read of the different opinions the breeders have on sheep; for it is a big problem as sheep differ more than any other livestock.

W. H. GUSCETTI, California.

HIGH NEVADA WOOL

We have an appraisement made in Chicago on a lot of original bag Nevada fine wool at $71\frac{1}{2}$ cents. This clip was estimated to shrink 58 per cent and at \$1.70, it returns $71\frac{1}{2}$ in the grease. This is the highest appraisement yet made on Western fine wool. It shows the value of light shrinkage.

AUSTRALIAN PUT UP WOOLS

We have the following appraisements made by the government on wools from along the line of the Union Pacific railroad in Wyoming. All of these wools were classed as is done in Australia and baled under the Australian system. We are not at liberty to give the names of any of the owners of these wools, but we give the amount of wool appraised, the grade and the prices. In giving the grade of wool, the Australian terms have been disregarded by the government and all grades are recognized on a basis of American grades and terms. One clip, 70 bales, mixed fine and fine medium combing and clothing, shrink 65, was appraised at $58\frac{1}{2}$ cents; 125 bales, fine medium clothing, shrink 68, at $51\frac{1}{4}$ cents. Another clip, four bales, fine and fine medium clothing and some half-blood, shrink 65, at $51\frac{3}{4}$ cents. Another clip, 11 bales, average to choice fine and fine medium clothing, shrink 69, was valued at $51\frac{3}{4}$ cents, and 11 bales, inferior fine clothing, shrink 68, was appraised at $53\frac{1}{2}$ cents. 20 bales, fine and fine medium clothing, shrink 68, was appraised at $53\frac{1}{2}$ cents, and 19 bales, fine and fine medium clothing, shrink 69, at $50\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

Get us a new subscriber.

November, 1918

IN WYOMING

October was ideal Indian summer. Storms which generally come at this time of the year have not appeared, while temperatures have been above normal. It has all been very fine for the sheep and cattle. Both are in good condition, as moisture was plenty all summer, making good grass and lots of it. In sections where hay is grown the crop is larger than usual although some of it is of none too good quality owing to rains during haying season.

Shipments have been rather heavy all fall, but not as numerous as would have been had cars been obtainable and the market conditions been better. Railroad service never was worse so far as livestock is concerned than this fall. Unloading points had no feed for lambs, and when on the cars movement was snail-like. Shortage of help and indifference as to when stuff arrived at destination combined with lack of power have contributed largely to heavy shrinkages in transit. The latter part of the month shipments have been restricted to a certain number of cars per week, and to certain days of the week when they could be loaded.

The lamb market put on its annual fall stunt of breaking \$2 to \$5 per cwt. for the benefit of the producer. The railroad situation was undoubtedly a large factor in this, as was also shortage of help at market centers and on the farms; added to this was the "flu" epidemic, and it is easily understood that the usual volume of feeding sheep and lambs could not be handled. Growers evidently soon realized this, canceled car orders, and made ready to carry over much stuff that would otherwise be shipped. We doubt the ultimate necessity of this, however, as Western feedlots are still far short of their requirements, and recent purchases on the range by several operators rather indicates that by the time the year is done the lamb crop will have moved pretty well from range to feedlot. Feeders have been in no hurry to fill up, as many have been busy with their farm crops owing to

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

shortage of help. Prices also looked too high early in the season. Growers have not been forced to sell, and with the fine weather prevailing lambs have continued to grow and increase in weight. Result will be a straggling movement until well after the first of the year, especially if open weather continues.

Not many breeding ewes are changing hands. Now and then a band is moving at around \$15 per head for good young breeders. In hay sections old broken-mouthed and toothless ewe have found a quite ready market at all the way from \$6 to \$11 per head, depending on circumstances. These old "biddies" will be bred and carried over on hay with the expectation of selling both ewe and lamb on the market next summer. Profits on similar operations in previous years has caused a demand for these ewes where hay and pasture was plenty.

Wool returns are slowly coming to the growers with varying results. Some are much dissatisfied, and apparently justly so, many are simply content that it is no worse, and a few seem well pleased with their returns. From what we can learn the method of handling the wools this year, when honestly followed, will result in greater differences in clips than heretofore, and the choice, well-grown, well-bred clip will sell nearer on its merits and not have to carry the short staple inferior stuff of its neighbor. At the same time there is evidently considerable variation in the ideas of the different valuation committees. It is to be hoped that some good to the producer will ultimately come out of all this regulation.

GRADED WYOMING WOOLS

Large lines of Wyoming wool have been graded recently and appraised at the following prices:

Fine and fine medium, 58½ cents.

One-half blood combing, 63¼ cents.

Three-eighths blood combing, 59¾ cents.

One-fourth blood, 59¾ cents.

One-half blood clothing, 62½ cents.

Low quarter blood, 57½ cents.

AN ERA OF FAKES

With the outbreak of influenza the manufacturers of patent medicines in many cases have reaped a harvest. The daily papers have carried their advertisements as a sure-cure for influenza and with the assistance of these papers the public has been robbed of millions of dollars and a few people sent to their graves who otherwise might have survived.

But as stockmen, our interest in the present patent medicine fakes has most to do with stock foods and worm powders. One can hardly pick up an agricultural or stock paper without finding its pages filled with advertisements of some patent formula guaranteed to restore the health and remove worms from all classes of livestock. How utterly silly these claims. Anyone who understands the subject readily appreciates that any medicine that is strong enough to kill worms in the stomach of an animal is too irritating to feed indiscriminately or to continue long. We are personally of the opinion that so far as the prevention or eradication of worms is concerned, powders are of little if any value. We believe that the constant use of these powders as is generally recommended by their makers is decidedly detrimental to the health of all kinds of livestock.

The patent medicine fake ought to be abolished by law. We have not the slightest doubt that the ministration of some of these worm powders will cause serious loss in the livestock that consumes them. Either to human or animal life the constant doping with nostrums leads to impaired health.

AUSTRALIAN SHEEP NUMBERS

Late statistics credit Australia with 73,235,479 sheep on January 1, 1917, as against 81,232,643 on January 1, 1918. New Zealand is listed with 25,270,386 sheep on January 1 of last year as against 26,354,594 on the same date this year. The increase in the two countries during the year totals 9,081,372. It is reported that January 1, 1919, will again show an increase over 1918 in both countries.

LESS WOOL ON HAND

Washington, D. C.—Stocks of wool in hands of dealers and manufacturers on September 30, 1918, were about 182,000,000 pounds grease equivalent less than on September 30, 1917. With all figures reduced to a grease equivalent basis, stocks as given by the Bureau of Markets were, September 30, 1918, 468,000,000 pounds, compared with 494,000,000 pounds on June 30, 1918, and 650,000,000 pounds on September 30, last year.

Stocks reported by classes in pounds on September 30, 1918, were: grease, 321,558,794; scoured, 29,162,687; pulled, 19,150,488; tops, 12,635,421; and noils, 16,122,871. The year before stocks were: grease, 388,594,596; scoured, 64,635,849; pulled, 24,330,015; tops, 23,122,825; and noils, 17,944,426.

Out of 1,118 concerns reports from all but nine are included in the totals. The detailed quarterly wool stock report will contain an added feature in the form of a comparison of the stocks and number of firms reporting each class and grade of domestic and foreign wool. Copies may be obtained from the Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

**ENCOURAGEMENT FOR
SMALL SHEEP OWNERS**

T. W. Winterrowd, a stock farmer in Wilson County, Kansas, bought Western breeding ewes at Kansas City a year ago, and after closing out the deal is more firmly convinced than ever that he "could not carry on stock farming without sheep." The details of this transaction were published in Kansas City papers, and doubtless influenced the purchase of more than one lot of Western breeding ewes on the market this fall. Fifteen dollars per head was paid for 114 head of ewes in October last year. They received very little grain through the winter, and last spring sheared nine pounds of wool each, which brought \$5.20, when sold, for each ewe. The spring lamb crop exceeded 100 per cent, and when marketed this fall the

lambs weighed 85 pounds, and sold at 15 cents a pound, or \$12.75 per head, total income per ewe \$17.95. Some of the ewes were culled out and sold, the balance being held for another season. —J. A. R.

**RAMBOUILLET WOOL
APPRaised**

We have the official report on the appraisement of the clip of Davis & Williams of Deer Lodge, Montana, and believe they have received the highest price yet placed on a straight clip from any Rambouillet stud flock. The wool was all Rambouillet and was appraised at 63 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents. This price indicates not only light shrinkage but long staple. These people are breeding very smooth Rambouillet, which fact is demonstrated by the price.

**CONDITIONS OF NORTHERN
COLORADO FEEDING DISTRICT**

Denver, Colo.—Reports received by the local representative of the Bureau of Markets show 6,400 cattle and 92,000 sheep on feed in the northern Colorado feeding district. Movements of cattle and sheep into the feed lots are at present below normal in spite of the available coarse feed, because of high priced grain and scarcity of labor. Much of the alfalfa crop has been damaged by summer rains, making an unusual supply of number 2, or lower, grade hay, which is selling at \$10 to \$15 in the stack. Beet tops are quoted at \$8 per acre and pulp at \$1.25 per ton at the mill, but the supply is limited owing to the decreased acreage of beets.

LOAN STOCKMEN MONEY

Through the efforts of President Hagenbarth, Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board recently visited Salt Lake City and in leaving issued the following statement:

"The branch Federal Reserve Bank at Salt Lake, acting as fiscal agent for the war finance corporation, will receive applications from stock raisers throughout the intermountain section

for loans secured by livestock.

"The object of the war finance corporation is to supplement existing bank facilities, but not to interfere with the operations of the banks. Any application, therefore, to be considered by the war finance corporation should contain a statement over the signature of the applicant that the advance desired cannot be obtained through the usual bank channels. Applications which are sent to the branch Federal Reserve Bank at Salt Lake will be forwarded by that institution to the war finance corporation at Washington and final action will be taken as soon as the applications can be properly investigated. Payments will be made to the borrowers whose applications are approved through the branch Federal Reserve bank at Salt Lake."

WINTERING EWE LAMBS

A new demand is for Western ewe lambs to be conserved for breeding purposes. It is an innovation originating in Indiana.

"With corn silage we can winter ewe lambs cheaper than in the West," said Jesse Andrews, the Indiana breeder. "My experience has been that lambs can be carried through the inclement season on corn silage and oats straw. The fleece will more than pay the bill. By adopting this method the cornbelt could take a large number of Western ewe lambs each summer."

MIRRORS FOR HANDLING SHEEP

An Australian grower has reported the use of a mirror to get sheep to pass into pens where they are wanted. He places a mirror three feet square opposite the opening through which the sheep are to be driven. The sheep sees its outline in the mirror and thinking it is another sheep, passes through at once. It is reported that a mirror properly placed in the cutting out chute eliminates all delay in getting the sheep through. This device has only been tried by one Australian, but he reports great success from its use.



Do You Think There is No Competition?

If anyone thinks there is no competition amongst the big packers he ought to go through a day's work with Swift & Company.

Let him begin at the pens when the live stock comes in; let him try to buy a nice bunch of fat steers quietly and at his own price, without somebody's bidding against him.

Let him realize the scrupulous care taken at the plant that not one thing is lost or wasted in order that costs may be held to a minimum.

Let him go up into the office where market reports are coming in,—and reports of what other concerns are doing.

Let him watch the director of the Swift Refrigerator fleet, maneuvering it over the face of the country like a fleet of battleships at sea.

Let him take a trip with a Swift & Company salesman and try to sell a few orders of meat.

Let him stay at a branch house for an hour or two and see the retail meat dealers drive their bargains to the last penny as they shop around among the packers' branch houses, the wholesale dealers, and the local packing plants.

And then, when the day is over, let him have half an hour in the accounting department, where he can see for himself on what small profits the business is done. (Less than 4 cents on each dollar of sales.)

If he still thinks there is no competition in the meat business it will be because he wants to think so.

Swift & Company, U. S. A.



Choice Feeder Lambs

These are nice smooth Rambouillet Lambs averaging about 50 pounds. Will make gain of 30 to 40 pounds when fed out. Will sell in car load lots, any number wanted up to 50,000—November and December delivery. We offer good young Rambouillet breeding ewes, Mexican breeding ewes (Improved.) High grade Angora and Mexican goats in car load lots up to any number wanted.

WRITE OR WIRE

Pitman Live Stock Company

Suite 8-9 Morehouse Block - EL PASO, TEXAS

"THE ONLY PAINT THAT SCOURED PERFECTLY."

Wyoming Experiment Station Bulletin 93



KEMPS

The Practical Brand For Sheep

SCOURS OUT—

Cheaper and better than home made mixtures
Used by more sheepmen than any other brand

Red—Black—Blue—Green

Ask Your Dealer or Write—

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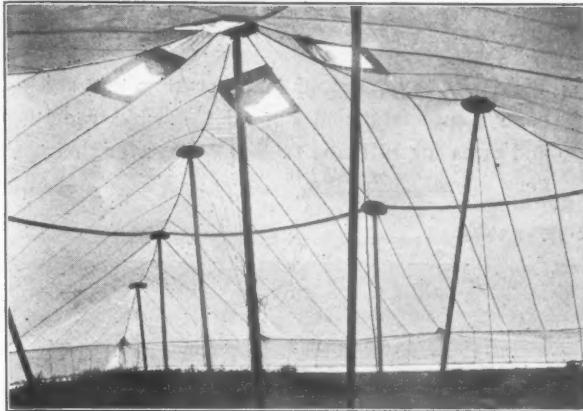
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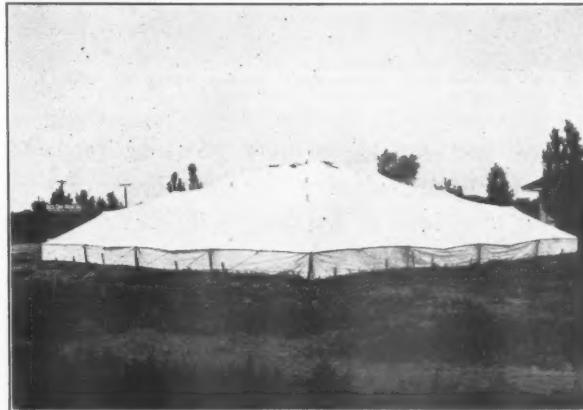
The "Red Seal" SHEEP TENT

One of these wonderful portable canvas sheds will cost you less than FIVE CENTS per head per season. CAN YOU BEAT IT? How many lambs could you have saved last season with one of our tents?



DESCRIPTION.

Made of 12- or 14-ounce duck, as ordered. Fully hand-roped with best manilla rope. Size of Tent No. 1, 58 feet x 58 feet. Fitted with adjustable ventilators in roof. Stakes and poles, as shown in cuts, are included. Wall 2 feet 6 inches high. Jump ropes (or hold down ropes) on each quarter and center pole.



Each No. 1 tent will hold about 2,000 head of sheep. Tent will weigh close to 500 lbs., taking first-class freight rate. Poles and stakes will weigh about 350 lbs., taking third-class freight rate. Two men can put up this tent in two hours. Tent is HIP ROOF style, which is the best style for strong winds.

Tent No. 1—58 x 58—for 1,500 sheep
 Tent No. 2—42 x 42—for 750 sheep
 Tent No. 3—29 x 29—for 400 sheep

Prices on application.

Address the

Schaefer Tent & Awning Co.

Exclusive Makers of "RED SEAL TENTS"
 1421 Larimer Street (Dept. K) Denver, Colo.

Walnut Hall Farms

Hampshire

Down Sheep

Alhambra, Ill.,

May 10th, 1918.

Dear Mr. Blastock:

The ewe we bought from you has surely made a record for us, she has raised seven lambs, and all are prize winners.

Counting her fleeces, prize winnings, and two of her lambs we sold, she has made us \$846.50, not counting the five ewes we have in the flock out of her, she is in good condition yet and seven years old this spring.

Yours very truly,

S. S. STETTBACHER,
 Alhambra, Illinois.

Walnut Hall Farms

Donerail, Kentucky

Robert A. Blastock, Manager

F. S. KING Bros. Co.

Laramie, Wyoming



THICKSET, JR.
1st Prize Ram Lamb Chicago International 1916. 1st Prize
Yearling Ram Chicago International 1917

BREEDERS OF
Rambouillet
 and
Corriedale
Sheep

Everything Contracted For This Season

RAMS EWES **COTSWOLDS** **FOR 1919**

We desire to advise our many patrons that we have completely sold out of Cotswold rams and ewes for 1918 and to thank them for their very liberal patronage.



A Few of Our Stud Rams—Photo Taken March 20, 1918.

We are receiving many requests for Cotswold ram lambs but we do not desire to sell our ram lambs as we carry them all over to be sold as yearlings.

For 1919 we will offer
700 Yearling Cotswold Registered Range Rams
50 Cotswold Stud Rams, and
a few Registered Ewes

Deseret Sheep Co.

BOISE, IDAHO

November, 1918

NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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FUTURE WOOL MARKETS

In past issues we have dealt with our system, or lack of system, of marketing Western wool, but now comes one of our readers to say that all dealers should be eliminated and our wool sold direct to manufacturers. That, from a grower's standpoint, would be ideal, but it is so impracticable as never to be attainable. We have no right to expect the manufacturers to buy all our wool direct at one season, in fact, they could not do so if they desired, nor do we believe it would be to the interest of the grower. The American wool clip is placed on the market during a period of 90 to 120 days. That wool, however, must last the manufacturer from twelve to fifteen months. Suppose, for instance, a manufacturer bought his year's supply of domestic wool at 25 cents from the grower in May and six months later something occurred and wool declined five or ten cents a pound—here and abroad. Another manufacturer delayed purchase and bought his wool later for ten cents a pound less either here or abroad. This manufacturer would then be able to make a pound of cloth for 25 cents less than the man who bought his year's supply at one season. In normal times a difference of 25 cents in the cost of a pound of cloth would be sufficient to put a mill out of business. Also, let us not forget that mills do not generally know before hand, either the grade or quan-

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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ty of wool they will require during the year because they do not know the amount or kind of goods they will need to make. Thus, if a mill made a practice of buying a year's supply of wool during the ninety days when the grower has wool to sell it would be as speculative from the mill owner's standpoint, as it is for the grower to contract to sell his wool before it is shorn. That policy has been disastrous to the grower and we cannot fairly ask the mill to adopt it.

If the grower's wool was shorn from the sheep so much each month, then direct mill buying would be in order, and our wool would mostly be bought direct.

This problem of marketing wool is not local to this country—it obtains all over the world exactly the same. The grower shears all his sheep in a few weeks and the mill spends twelve to fifteen months using up that wool. The mills everywhere refuse to buy a year's supply at shearing time so the problem everywhere is, what to do with the wool until the mill is ready to buy it. Everywhere the grower wants the money for his wool at shearing time and we agree that he must have it. It is a grower's problem, not the mills. In the United States the growers have solved the problem by selling their wool to dealers at shearing time and the dealer holding it until the mill wants it. Naturally under this system, the dealer wants to buy wool as low as he can and sell as high as he can. As the grower is not informed on wool values and the dealer is, our growers usually get the worst of the transaction, not through the fault of either the grower or the dealer, but because the system is wrong fundamentally.

In Australia the growers had the same problem exactly—who would hold the wool until the manufacturer wanted it. The same fellow was there found to do the job, namely, the dealer. But while the dealer handled the wool, the system was different. The dealer acted solely as a commission man—not as a buyer as is the case in this country. There the grower sent his wool to a commission man,

the commission man at once advanced the grower a fair proportion of the value of the wool, then the commission man undertook to sell it. He sold some of it in a month, some in six months and probably some of it he carried over twelve months. He charged the grower for his service and interest on the advance and settled up with him when the wool was sold. But the Australian wool dealer owns no wool—he has nothing of his own to sell. His business is to sell wool for the men who raise it. The only way that broker can get business is to get for the grower what the wool grower believes is the full market value of his wool. If he don't do that some other broker gets the wool next year. The Australian wool broker operates on exactly the same basis as our livestock commission man in this country. He represents the producer only.

The sale of wool on a straight commission basis is we believe the proper solution of the problem. Whether you sell the wool at public auction or private sale makes no difference to the system. It will be noted that under this system we have not eliminated the wool dealer or the so-called middleman. We grant this because the middleman cannot be eliminated in any workable plan that gets the grower the full value of his product. Someone must be found to advance the grower about 80 per cent of the value of his wool as soon as the grower shears it and to carry that wool until such time as the mill is ready to take it off his hands at its full market price. That someone here and all over the world will always be the wool dealer, or wool broker, or wool commission man, whatever you choose to call him. All we want as growers and all we are entitled to is the fair market price of our wool, but in order to get that the wool dealer must become the representative of the grower, his confidential adviser as regards the quality and value of his wool. But before the commission man can fulfill that field, he must cease to own, or buy, or sell wool on his own account.

Don't blame the wool dealer for the faults of the present system—it is up

to the grower alone to decide how he wants his wool marketed. He makes the system. Will he help establish a better system?

NOT TOO FAST

We hear so much about making the world safe for democracy that few have considered the necessity of making democracy safe for the world—one is as important as the other. All sound thinking people understand that the world contains many peoples not fit for self-government and when democracy is prematurely forced on them it leads to conditions more oppressive and more destructive to the individual than have been practiced by most monarchs in recent times. Countries like Russia, Austria and Mexico are not fit for democratic government. Such peoples understand self-government to mean the abrogation of law and order and the institution of the right to possess that which the individual desires regardless of the methods used in obtaining it. Look at France—from the time she established her first republic until the present one was founded was one hundred years, and those years were the darkest in her history. Not until the French people finally realized that democracy meant the continued maintenance of law and order and the establishment of strong governmental forces to accomplish this did she make democracy of real benefit to her people. This realization has given France one of the best governments in the world and fitted her people for an enlightenment enjoyed by but few nations.

Those who want permanent democracy must understand that anarchy has been its greatest enemy—that too much freedom is far more dangerous than too little. The man who would destroy his neighbor or his property simply because his neighbor was more prosperous is the last individual to whom democracy should be given, for he would be the first to destroy it. Murder, arson, theft and the seizure of others' property have no place in democracy.

But the danger in the present situ-

ation is not all for the new democracies that may be created. The old seemingly well-established free countries are entering a new era where demands for increased individual liberties may shake these governments to their foundations. In this trial the government that will best stand the test will be the one that maintains strong central and local governments and that best maintains law and order. Always remember that the danger to democracies comes from giving too much rather than too little liberty.

THE PRODUCER AND THE PACKER— AN OBJECT LESSON

Under the auspices of the livestock section of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, of which our Mr. F. J. Hagenbarth is chairman, there was held a conference among the swine producers, the packers and the Food Administration in Washington on October 23 to 25. This meeting was called by Mr. Hoover for the purpose of stabilizing the price of hogs on the large markets.

An attempt was made at a meeting of producers sitting with Mr. Hoover in September to fix a price for hogs during October. It was agreed at the September meeting that the price at Chicago should be \$18.50 per hundred-weight for average packers' droves of hogs. This was subsequently reduced to \$18 upon representations of the packers.

An attempt had been made to tie the price of hogs to the price of corn on the theory that it required thirteen bushels of corn or its equivalent in cost to produce 100 pounds of packers' hog. The process in theory was simple, i. e. the price of farm corn was averaged for five months and this average was multiplied by 13. As determined by this formula \$18.50 was arrived at as the October price of hogs.

When actually put into practice, however, the theory, under the stress laid upon it by the law of supply and demand, failed to work. Hogs dropped from an average around \$19 early in October to nearer \$17 by the 21st of

the month, and the whole market and everyone concerned was in an uproar. The producer presumably seeing lower hog prices predicted for November and December by the lower prices of corn, which had come by reason of peace talk, began to rapidly market their hogs, and October, 1918, showed an increase of over 25 per cent over October, 1917. As many as 16,000 head of hogs were left over unsold on the 21st. The packers claimed to be unable to absorb the excessive supplies, speculators were frightened, outside buyers held off and a virtual panic was on. The packer blamed the producer for the trouble and the producer said the packer was bearing prices as usual in order to fill his cellars with cheap pork, as has heretofore been the custom each fall during the months of heavy supplies.

It was at this juncture that Mr. Hoover called the Washington meeting of producers and packers. Mr. Hoover was present at all meetings for three days. Many prominent producers and presidents of farm and hog associations were there. Louis F. Swift and Gus Swift, Arthur Meeker and Mr. Waddell of Armour and Company, Ed. Cudahy, Thos. E. Wilson, in fact all the big packers were there, upwards of forty packing concerns being represented.

This meeting of packers and producers marks an epoch in the livestock business—the lamb and the lion lying down together, and the lamb did not lie inside the lion. The producer formulated his requirements, stated a program that was satisfactory to him and the packer gracefully accepted the conditions proposed. Each side learned of the other's difficulties and though naturally there was radicals in each camp, after the first day discussions were harmonious and on the give and take plan. Each side learned. Among the interested spectators, and they also took part in the discussion, were Mr. Pearson of England, who has to do with purchase of supplies for the Allies, Major Ray of the Food Administration, Mr. Snyder, who took Judge Cotton's place, Major MacIntosh, representing the army buying, Com-

mander Hancock, representing the navy, representatives of the Apex buying committee and others high in government councils. Everett Brown, president of the Live Stock Exchange, Chicago, was present.

The net result of these conferences was an agreement on the part of the packers to maintain a minimum of \$17.50 for packers' hogs; the producers agreed to maintain as far as practicable normal marketings; a censorship of all market reports sent out by commission men is to be maintained by the Bureau of Markets, and the Food Administration and Apex buying concern undertake to pay the packers for approximately 50 per cent of their output, a fair price based on the actual cost of hogs from month to month.

The outstanding feature of the whole conference, however, was the ease with which the packer and producer were brought to see that their interests ran together; that a full knowledge of each other's difficulties would eliminate criminization and recrimination and result in an amicable understanding. The game was played fairly, and Herbert Hoover as umpire emerged covered with glory. For once the producer laid aside his prejudices and talked and did business; for once the packer showed that he really had a heart and got down off his high horse. Taken all in all, let us hope that many such conferences will follow. The packer has realized that a new dawn has broken and the day of co-operation has begun. Now let the producer be up too betimes and together let them work out the destiny of a great industry.

PAYING FOR WOOL

There has been some complaint among growers because many of them have not received the final payment for their wool. We have had this matter up with the Wool Administrator and are assured that everything is being done to hasten final settlement with the grower. Final returns have already been made on more than 40 per cent of the clip and additional settlements are going forward very rapidly

now with the prospect that all will receive their returns in the near future.

Growers must be very patient in this matter as the problem of taking over our entire wool clip is a very big one. Let us remember that arrangements to fix the price of wool were not completed until May first and since that date all the machinery for the complete revolution in our system of marketing wool has had to be brought together. The wool houses that are handling our wool have every incentive to hurry the work of appraising and disposing of the clip. The commission that they receive for their work is limited to a certain amount regardless of the time they have the wool on hand. It is, therefore, to their own financial welfare that they get the wool off their hands as soon as possible.

Our president, Mr. Hagenbarth, is now in the East and has made a personal investigation of this matter for you, and he assures us that the work is being well done and is pushed forward as rapidly as human efforts will permit. We must remember that the same conditions—the draft, sickness, shortage of labor and congestion of freight traffic—are as acute, if not more so, in the East as in the West.

THE FUTURE OF WOOL

At this season wool growers are making preparations for another year and as everything they must now buy is on a war-basis in regard to price, it is essential that they now know whether the products they have to sell will likewise be on a war-basis at selling time. When the last clip was shipped to market in May the wool grower immediately began the production of a new clip, which will be marketed next May. Everything that he has purchased in that program, including his supply of hay and grain until next April, has cost him on a basis that requires at least existing wool prices to enable him to break even, and in places like Oregon, New Mexico and Arizona existing prices will not make ends meet. The advice we have from most sections of the West

from sources that loan money to sheepmen, is that loans have increased rather than decreased during the year. Men who expected to reduce a portion of their indebtedness have found it impossible to do so. This condition prevailing generally in the wool country can only indicate that prices for wool and lambs have not been high enough to meet expenses.

Wool growers are now asking if the government intends to fix the price of wool for next year. We believe that in good faith the government should at once announce its policy as to the future, or as regards next year at least. The wool grower's record in this matter is a clean one. He did not desire or ask that the price of his wool should be fixed this year, but when the government intimated that it desired a fixed price as a part of its war program, the wool grower subordinated his own interest in the matter and not only consented to a fixed price but to a price 15 per cent below existing market values. When the price was fixed it deprived the wool grower of the certainty of an advance in the market and prevented him from obtaining sufficient income to tide him through the period of uncertainty that is now at hand. Producers of other products have not been so embarrassed and in many cases have reaped rewards that put them in the clear, come what may. We are rather proud, however, that wool growers have pursued the course that they have and in the end we are sure they will be better off for it. Now, however, that the price of wool was fixed in 1918, it seems that that very fact must lead to the fixing of the price for next year. The fixing of an artificial price, the establishment of entirely new machinery for marketing wool has left this country without a wool market. If at the end of this year the government simply drops the reins neither the wool grower or wool manufacturer will know where to start. Now we do not believe for a minute that this is going to happen. We believe the government will not only fix the price of wool for 1919 but for many years to follow.

Appreciating the importance of this

matter the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association met on August 29 and discussed this subject, reaching the conclusion that the War Industries Board should be asked to announce its policy as regards wool at the earliest possible moment. This matter has been presented to the War Industries Board and we hope and expect that within a few days some announcement will be made, and we believe it will be favorable to the sheep industry and satisfactory to the wool growers.

Wool growers need not be alarmed about the end of the war. Our government will need more wool in 1919 than it used this year, even if peace were declared tomorrow.

PUBLISH THE RECORDS

It should be the ambition of the sheep registry associations to secure the registration of every sheep eligible for that distinction. To accomplish this end, greater publicity must be given to the ownership of registered sheep

so that such owner may derive the benefits that rightly belong to him. The man who desires to buy sheep should have some ready reference to which he can turn and find out the number of registered sheep recorded by each owner every year.

We understand, of course, that the registry associations publish from time to time a volume showing the number of sheep recorded by each owner during a certain period. This volume, however, is big, cumbersome and expensive and can never be widely circulated or made useful to the average breeder. It would be far better if at the close of each year a cheap pamphlet could be published showing the registrations by each owner for that year. This need not involve the details of the transaction but simply state that John Smith of such a place had registered so many rams and so many ewes of a certain breed. If this was done we are sure the sheep publications would gladly republish these data. In this way the average sheep breeder would soon be advised as to

the men who were keeping up their registrations.

WOOL RETURNS

For sometime in making their returns to the grower the wool dealers did not report on either the shrinkage or the clean value of the wool. As both of these factors must have been known to the appraisers before the grease price could be determined, it would seem to be but little additional trouble to give the grower this added information. The National Wool Growers Association therefore asked the Wool Administration to issue an order requiring that all returns to the grower should give the estimated shrink and the clean price of the wool. Such an order has now been issued so that future returns will contain that information. Those who already have their returns can find out the shrinkage by writing the house that handled their wool. It will be glad to give the information.

THE KNOLLIN SHEEP COMMISSION CO.

Chicago, Ill.

(Incorporated \$50,000 fully paid up)
C. H. Shurte, President and General Manager.

Omaha, Nebr.



The above photograph is part of seven trains of lambs sold by us for Van Deusen Brothers of Emmett, Idaho, that topped the market every day here for seven weeks excepting once.

"Mr. C. H. Shurte, Chicago, Illinois.
Dear Sir:

Thought I would drop you a line regarding our sales as possibly you did not realize what good work you were doing for us, as being on the ground every day and knowing you were so busy selling so many thousands of sheep, I hardly realized what good work you were doing for us, as no doubt you were for other people. We find you topped the market with our lambs every day for seven weeks excepting once. We wish to thank you for the service rendered us as we don't think anyone ever had such good sales as these, and we don't believe any other firm ever had their lambs top the market for seven weeks in succession.

Write us for our special Weekly Market Bulletin.
Chicago, Ill.

The Knollin Sheep Commission Company Omaha, Nebr.

(Letter from Van Deusen Brothers)

Yours truly,
VAN DEUSEN BROTHERS. By John Van Deusen."

LONG'S WOOL APPRAISED

We are advised that the government appraisers have recently placed the following values on the clip of J. B. Long and Company of Great Falls, Montana: 305 sacks at 62½ cents, and 250 sacks at 68 cents. The Long clip is probably the largest now grown in Montana.

MONTANA WOOL SOLD

Ben Phillips of northern Montana was a new buyer at the last Salt Lake ram sale and he was also the heaviest buyer at that event. Our readers will be glad to learn that his clip, which is one of the best in Montana, was recently appraised in Boston at 66 cents.

LINCOLN ENTRIES CLOSED

We desire to give notice that entries of Lincoln sheep for the Salt Lake Ram Sale have already closed. We have already accepted more entries than we expected to receive.

TO ALL WOOL DEALERS

In making returns to growers, whether on territory or fleece wool, you are requested to have your report to the growers show:

- (1) The grade.
- (2) Estimated shrinkage.
- (3) Government scoured basis.
- (4) Grease value per pound.

LEWIS PENWELL,
Chief of Wool Section, War
Industries Board.

A WORTHY MOVE

While we anticipate that after the war there will be no important demand for our purebred livestock from any of the European countries, yet it is possible that some demand even though small might be created. It might be that our sheep registry associations would be performing a worthy and business like act if each of them would make up a small shipment of registered sheep and send them to some foreign country for presentation to an organi-

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

zation that would promote our trade in sheep. These sheep would attract attention and might stimulate some orders.

FROM IDAHO

I have not bought hay or grain yet as I believe it will be cheaper later. I am not going to feed cottonseed cake, but will use either corn or barley. In southern Idaho some hay has recently been bought as low as \$11 and I expect to see it drop to \$10.

JAMES FARMER.

Shepherd Wanted

WANTED—Good, competent shepherd to work with sheep and Angora goats on Texas Agricultural Experiment Station in west Texas. Good terms to reliable party. Address communications to

J. M. JONES,
College Station, Texas.

Wants Interest In Sheep

Married man of 35 years, with family, desirous of securing interest in sheep business. Raised on farm and familiar with handling stock. Have \$2,000 cash and mortgage paper secured by real estate to extent of \$5,000. Would give entire time to business either as foreman or camp tender or as otherwise agreed upon.

Address Partner, National Wool Grower
Salt Lake City, Utah

FOR SHEEP DIPPING AT A PROFIT**Use Kreso Dip No. 1**

NON-POISONOUS—NOT INJURIOUS. Instead of injuring the fleece, as is often the case with lime and sulphur, it has a beneficial effect—cleansing and stimulating. KRESO DIP insures a BETTER and MORE PROFITABLE CROP OF WOOL, as well as improving the health of your sheep. USE KRESO DIP FOR POULTRY, HOGS AND CATTLE
—Write us for free booklet and prices.

SCHRAMM-JOHNSON
DRUGS

5 Busy Stores

Salt Lake City

WOOL KNOWLEDGE

Only a few days ago we read a letter from an Ohio man who had been down

Colorado Rams

I offer for sale the following rams
40 Shropshire Ram Lambs at \$30
20 Crossbred Shropshire-Merino rams \$30.

These are large, heavy-wooled March lambs.

WOOTTON & HAWKINS,

Paonia, Colorado.

Breeding Ewes For Sale

5,000 Rambouillet grade ewes, two to five years old, shear nine pounds, weigh 100 pounds. 5,000 yearling ewes, Merino and Cotswold grades, average weight 90 pounds, shear nine pounds. Will trade for lambs or sell in lots to suit. Also 4,500 feeding ewes, 250 yearling Cotswold bucks. Write for what you want. Address

C. W. BARNEY, Casper, Wyo.
Sheep Dealer

to the markets watching the appraisal of farm wool. This man had long been breeding Merino sheep in Ohio, always endeavoring to get as heavy a fleece as possible, but forgetting that it was wool, not grease that sold. Now he has learned the lesson and has become an advocate of light-shrinking wool. On his trip East he saw wools that shrank all the way from 55 to 80 per cent. The wool that shrank 80 per cent was worth 36 cents in the grease and the 55 per cent wool brought 81 cents in the grease. We imagine an object lesson of this kind might well change a man's ideas of sheep breeding. Let us examine it more carefully.

Among any of the pure Merinos, including the Rambouillet, it is possible with reasonably good care to breed a sheep that will produce a fleece of 11 pounds of combing wool that will shrink 60 per cent. On a basis of \$1.80, for scoured wool, wool shrinking 60 per cent would be worth 72 cents in the grease. Much of our wool from purebred Rambouillet flocks shrinks this year 68 per cent. At \$1.80 clean, such wool is only worth 57½ cents in the grease, always provided that it is as good in staple as the light-shrinking wool, which is seldom the case. As

a rule the more grease or oil that wool contains, the shorter and less desirable the fiber, so that a good many heavy Merino fleeces were classed as short wool and valued at \$1.70 per clean pound and were only worth 54½ cents in the grease. An eleven-pound fleece of light wool at 72 cents brings \$7.92. An eleven-pound fleece of heavy wool at 54½ cents brings \$6.00. The heavy fleeced sheep would have to shear 14½ pounds to produce as much wool value as the sheep with a lighter fleece. But at that the heavy fleeced sheep would be an inferior animal even if it produced 14½ pounds of wool—for remember the more grease there is in the wool, the less hardy the sheep, the smaller in size, the slower reaching maturity and more important than anything else, the less prolific, the sheep will be.

Many breeders feel that it is the excess of oil or grease in the wool that preserves its character and makes it soft. We believe that such is not the case, for it has been our observation that the wool from light-shrinking fleeces is always softer, stronger and longer than from the heavy fleeces.

We imagine that the governmental appraisement of wool is going to be a good thing. Wool growers are going to learn that wool, not grease, brings the money. The day is past when the sheep with the heaviest fleece will bring the most money.

Let this be the wool test for our Rambouillet breeders of stud sheep. Take the ewe flock straight through, if they have had good care and been on a fairly clean range—then if their wool has been appraised at much less than 58 cents, it's time to change the line of breeding.

OFFICE MOVED

We beg to advise our patrons who visit the office of the National Wool Growers Association that the office has been moved from 718 McIntyre Building to 303 McCormick Building. The McCormick joins the McIntyre Building so we are only two doors from where we originally were.

CHOICE**Cotswold Yearling Rams**

I have for sale 1,000 choice Cotswold Yearling Rams. These rams are purebred Cotswold and of high quality and are offered at a Reasonable Price. Address

J. T. EDWARDS

Idaho Falls, Idaho.

2400 HAMPSHIRE EWES

We have for sale 2400 two-year-old Hampshire Ewes. Must sell on account of shortage of summer range. These ewes are our own breeding, and are as fine a range lot as can be found.

Address JOHN RINGLING

Smith River Valley Farms

White Sulphur Springs, Montana

THE BIG KANSAS FEEDERS

Small feeders have been buying feeding lambs at the markets during the last two months, but the big feeders have been holding off, and only commenced buying the last half of October, and these men will not feed as heavily as in recent years. Peter Ronsee, St. Marys, made his first purchase at Kansas City October 30, four double decks of 60-pound Arizona lambs at \$12.75 per cwt. These were thin in flesh but good quality, and will make good weights and finish in ninety days. Smyser, of Sterling, Kansas, bought 1,200 46-pound New Mexico lambs on the market October 23 at 10 cents a pound, these for a long feed, into February or March. These were very thin lambs, and few like them are sent to market, the great majority of Western feeding lambs offered weighing between 50 and 60 pounds. This class of lambs began to improve in price when the big feeders started out to buy, and some of the small feeders who bought lambs the third week in October, and for a few weeks before that, saw their property advance \$1 per cwt. by the end of October. A. J. Parnell, Lakeview, Kansas, bought 2,500 lambs weighing around 60 pounds at \$12 to \$13.25, some of them due for a forty-day finish, Kemper Farm Company, Valley Falls, Kansas, bought 5,200 lambs in October, I. L. Wyrick, Rich Hill, Missouri, 2,000 lambs, including 1,200 bought early at \$13.85, some of which will soon be ready, and A. S. Lucas, Clearwater, Kansas and Ramsey, Maize, Kansas, bought lambs to turn on wheat pasture.—J. A. R.

BRITISH RAM SALES

Rams seem to be bringing top prices the world over. At the recent British ram sales a Lincoln ram sold for \$3,500. A Shropshire brought \$550, a Cheviot, \$400; a Scotch blackface, \$1,950, and a Border Leicester, \$1,250. Naturally, these are the top prices, but the average of all sold was higher than in past years.

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER**IDAHO SHEEPMEN****BUYING HAY**

After months of hesitation on account of their own desire to sell out or to reduce their sheep holdings, and of the high price the ranchers were asking for hay, the sheepmen have begun purchasing their winter supply. The general price in southern Idaho is \$11 or \$12 per ton of 512 cubic feet. This is a reduction of three to four dollars a ton from the price the ranchers have been previously asking. It is likely that sheep can be held on the desert later than usual, and with the reduction in the price of hay, the prospects are that the cost of wintering will be less than last season.—E. R. M.

**Wyoming
Ewes For Sale**

5000 Yearling Crossbred
Cotswold - Merino Ewes
For Sale.

Yellowstone Sheep Co.

Kinch M. Kinney, Mgr.
ARAPAHOE . . . WYOMING

H. L. Finch

Soda Springs, Idaho

Woolgrower and Importer of

**COTSWOLD, HAMPSHIRE
LINCOLN AND SHROPSHIRE
STUD SHEEP**

Next importation leaving Eng-
land in January, 1919

Cotswold--RAMS--Hampshire

We offer for immediate delivery 2,000 March and April Purebred Cotswolds at \$25 to \$30. 1,000 choice Hampshire Ram Lambs and 500 Cotswold Ewe Lambs at \$25. 1,500 Cotswold Ewes at \$35. 50 Cotswold Stud Rams at \$75. 200 Rambouillet Ram Lambs at \$40. All are purebred, from the best flocks in America and would bring double price at Salt Lake buck sales. Will sell any number.

A. N. Murdock & Sons
Sugar City, Idaho

The National Wool Growers Association urges breeders of eligible sheep to keep them registered.

RAMS Hampshires RAMS

We offer for 1918 a large
number of pure bred

Hampshire Ram Lambs

This is choice stuff offered at
reasonable prices.

Yellowstone View Ranch

R. B. SMITH, Prop.
LIVINGSTON . . . MONTANA

**Hampshires
AND
Shropshires**

We are offering for
summer and fall deliv-
ery Hampshire and
Shropshire yearling
rams; also some young
Hampshire ewes.

All deliveries to be
made in car lots or less
f. o. b. Twin Falls.

We have a few extra
good stud Hampshire
rams for sale.

**Brown Bros.
Sheep Co.**

TWIN FALLS - IDAHO

REGISTERED
LINCOLNS
 New Zealand Blood
 Also Crossbred Lincoln-Rambouilletts
S. W. McClure
 BLISS, IDAHO

Lincolns Cotswolds
RAMS

We offer for this season
Yearling Lincoln and
Cotswold Rams both
 flockheaders and range
 Rams. Also a few cars
 of Ram Lambs.

Also 50 Imported Lin-
 coln Ewes. These are
 high class sheep.

R. S. ROBSON & SON
 Denfield, Ontario, Canada

LINCOLNS

C. Nicholson of Horkstow
 Lincolnshire, England

Has a large selection of rams and ewes for sale from his world famous flock of "All Dudding Blood." By winning the champion and "All" the first prizes in the yearling and two shear ram classes at the Royal Show of England, 1915, all previous records were broken. This flock was founded by purchasing a very large selection of the late Mr. Henry Dudding's best flock ewes and five of his best stud rams, all of which had sired Royal first prize winners, and afterwards for five consecutive years the three highest priced Lincoln rams to be sold by auction in England all came into this flock to be used as sires.

Coates Shorthorns and Lincoln Red Shorthorns also for sale.

**Oxfords
 Lincolns
 Cotswolds
 Shropshires
 Rambouilletts**

I am offering a fine
 lot of March drop-
 ped Ram lambs of
 the above breeds at
 reasonable prices.

They are service-
 able for this season
 and can be seen on
 short notice.

Prices on application.

A. J. KNOLLIN
 P. O. Box 478
 Pocatello, Idaho



FAMOUS STUD RAM

Winner of First and Champion at the Royal Show of England, a most successful sire in this flock, and afterwards sold by auction for \$3,500.

Lacking opportunity to take any part in buying abroad for government uses, most Boston wool houses are forced to turn more attention to handling the domestic clip of 1919. Efforts are being made by the accounting departments of several large houses to ascertain exactly their profit and loss on the 1918 clip. This is a complicated matter at best. Under present circumstances, the wool trade working under an untried plan, it is unusually difficult.

Leading wool men seem to be satisfied that a fair profit may be had in handling territory wool under the government plans provided they can secure a large volume of consignments and are not required to grade too great a proportion. One point seems to evoke unanimity of opinion—that $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent commission for grading and handling wool is entirely inadequate, while 3 per cent for handling wool that can be turned over in the original bags is fair remuneration. Therefore, a loud call is likely for an increase of the allowance for grading, which is now limited strictly to one-half of one per cent.

It is suggested that, when this rate was established, those responsible for the naming of that figure had in mind the scale of expenses ruling before the war, or in the early war years. Some houses solicited a large volume of consignments, supposing that they could be turned over to the government in the original bags, without trouble or delay. The government's announcement that clips containing even a small percentage of three-eighths-blood and below must be graded was a serious blow to houses that had neither suitable storage facilities nor the organization necessary for the proper handling and grading of clips that would be accepted by the government in no other form.

Immediate hustling to find suitable storage room showed not only that little was available but that the cost was so great as to upset all calculations. Grading and handling wool

after it is graded requires an enormous amount of floor space, compared with what is needed for the handling of wool in the original bags. Consignees were forced to go far outside the borders of the wool district, so-called, and find space in Roxbury, South Boston, Dorchester, the North End and Charlestown; even as far away as Lynn. That this caused a big increase in the cost of doing the business, as well as added greatly to the inconvenience of the consignees and the valuation units and other government agencies, readily can be seen.

This is one reason why it is so difficult to ascertain the actual costs of doing business under the government plan. There is a strong feeling that, if the present plan is to be tried another year consignments should be diverted as far as possible to those houses in shape to conduct the business economically and expeditiously. Whether any concerted action can be secured in the wool trade to present a demand to Washington for more intelligent treatment remains to be seen, but it is stated that some action of the kind is to be sought. Based on greatly increased storage rates in all parts of the city, the tremendous advance in the cost of even ordinary unskilled labor, and the fact that clips not usually graded were this year obliged to "be passed over the board," justice seems to demand increased commissions for handling graded wools.

—Boston Transcript.

STILL HOLDING WOOL

The information coming to the wool section of the War Industries Board would indicate that there is still an appreciable amount of wool in the hands of the growers, particularly in the fleece wool sections, throughout the United States.

It is desirable and necessary that this be gotten in to the wool centers as soon as possible, in order that it may be taken over by the quartermaster general, to be used for the military and naval needs of the government. The farmers are urged to send this wool in as quickly as possible, for the

above reasons.

Owing to the shortage of wool for military purposes, you would be conferring a public service if you would give publicity to this communication.

The wool section of the war industries board would be glad to answer in-

quiries from farmers or others as to the manner of marketing wool.

LEWIS PENWELL,
Chief of Wool Section, War
Industries Board.

Get us a new subscriber.

Rambouillet

We offer this season four hundred yearling rams. They are fine, large, smooth-bodied fellows with heavy fleeces.

We are also offering for sale our entire flock of

THOROUGHBRED RAMBOUILLET EWES

We have sixteen hundred grown ewes, all good ages, and five hundred ewe lambs. All are in good condition. We will be pleased to answer any inquiries.

ADAMS SHEEP COMPANY,
Carlsbad, N. Mex.

Baldwin Sheep Company

Hay Creek, Oregon

Breeders of registered and range

Rambouillet Sheep

Carlots a Specialty

All Sold Out for 1918

Stud Rams

RAMBOUILLETS

Range Rams



ONE OF OUR STUD RAMS.

We are breeding big, heavy woolled, hardy Rambouillet and offer a large number of Registered Stud rams and range rams for 1919—500 head for sale. We also breed Registered Shorthorn Cattle of the highest quality.

QUEALY SHEEP CO., Cokeville, Wyoming.



"62"—For whom I paid \$6,200 at Salt Lake Ram Sale.

The photos in this advertisement show two of my stud rams. "62" is the ram for which I paid \$6,200 at the Salt Lake Sale, and "John Bill" is his half brother. All of my rams are of this type—my ewes are their equal in size and quality.

For 1919 I Offer
1300 Rambouillet Range
Rams and 100 Rambouillet
Stud Rams

C. N. Stillman
SIGURD, UTAH



"John Bill," the mate to "62."

RAIN IN TEXAS

We were mistaken in our report to you last May, in which we gave it as our opinion that the drouth of 1917, and spring of 1918, had ended. The summer of this year continued very dry, but exceedingly favorable, and abundant rains fell during October, over not only seemingly every foot of Texas, which had suffered most severely, but over all Texas, including all the fall wheat and oats planted in portions of the state, the acreage planted being in excess of any previous year.

All flocks are in good flesh, with the pastures in good condition for the coming of winter. The fall shorn clip of wool and mohair is in good condition and weight, mohair selling at higher prices than ever before in Texas, ranging from seventy-eight cents per pound, in the markets of production.

Cattle stock is in fairly good condition, with fairly good condition of pastures for the coming winter.

B. L. CROUCH.

BREAK IN BREEDING EWES

The demoralized lamb market of October played havoc with breeding ewe trade. Choice yearling ewes dropped to \$16.50 on the Chicago market and were not wanted on that basis. Aged stock at \$8.50@10.50 showed a \$2 decline. At the low point most of the yearling ewes went at \$14.50@15.50. Purebred sales in the country were adversely affected, several being canceled because bids were not available.

—J. E. P.

HEAVY LOSS FROM BLOATING

The loss this fall in southern Idaho from bloating on alfalfa pasture is the heaviest ever reported. In some cases the loss has amounted to as much as 5 per cent in the first two or three days.

Many sheepmen in southern Idaho have tried the pastures for a few days then returned their bands to the desert where the feed and water conditions are extremely good.—E. R. M.

Get us a new subscriber.

Arizona Rambouillet

Purebred Rambouillet rams, in single or double-deck lots. Having bred this class of Merino sheep in Arizona, on the ranges since 1881, we are offering the ewes and rams eligible for registration. The stud flock of this stuff is registered of the Garnia blood. Address R. E. Daggs, Williams, Arizona, or J. F. Daggs, 1410 North Third street, Phoenix, Ariz.



"SAN PETER"
 at head of W. D. Candlands flock
 Mt. Pleasant, Utah.
 400 Rams for 1919.

Electric Light and Power on the Ranch

Your Own Plant — Runs Itself.

(Just use the light or power—the plant will do the rest.) Sizes according to your needs.

Ask Us About Your Problem

**CAPITAL
 ELECTRIC
 CO.**

23 West First South St.
 Salt Lake City
 Utah

GRAZE RESERVATIONS

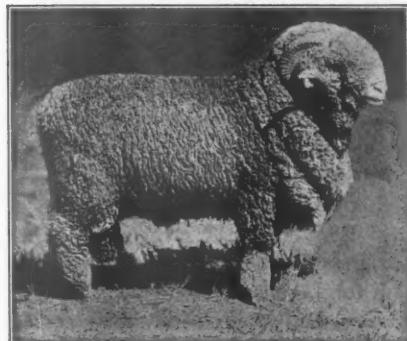
As the result of a recent conference of sheepmen in northeastern Montana with Major Mossman of the Fort Peck Reservation, the grazing portions of the reserve were allotted. The sheepmen agreed to run on unused allotments and vacant land the maximum number of sheep so as to utilize all the area. It is expected the new arrangement will eliminate much squabbling which has heretofore characterized the situation between the sheepmen and the Indians. The sheepmen agreed to pay 40 cents per head grazing fee, as against 30 cents in the past. Virtually all of the large sheep interests of that section are interested in the lease just concluded with the Indian agent.—L. W.

FROM EASTERN NEVADA

The other day I was in Spring Valley on a little hunting trip and while there I noted the condition of the range. There is good feed from the time we left Ely until we got to Big Wash in Spring Valley. There is good white sage and bunch grass. On the other side of Conner's Pass we came on to a band of sheep and they all were fat and in good condition for the winter range. Spring Valley raised a good crop of alfalfa hay this year, but I do not know what it is selling for. About six weeks ago I was in Long Valley and Butte Valley and found the feed fine there also. Mr. Domingo Waltie has sold a good bunch of lambs for a good price.

I have no sheep of my own but have worked around them and take an interest in them, as I think the sheep industry of the United States and of South America is an excellent business, providing a person has range and good bred stock and stays with it. If a lot more of our small ranchers would get a few sheep, about 200 or 300, they would be well fixed, as there is always a place where they can feed, and with the present price of wool, it would be a good investment.

OTTO ZIEGE, Nevada.



One of My Stud Rams

CALIFORNIA RAMBOUILLETS

My Rambouillet are large, smooth and well covered with heavy fleeces of long white wool. They are bred in a high, dry country and are very hardy. I have 2000 one and two-year-old rams for this season. If you visit California, call and see my flocks. My prices are reasonable and my rams will suit the range country.

**CHAS. A. KIMBLE,
Hanford, Cal.**



One of My Stud Ewes

RAMBOUILLETS



Will have a few Rams and Ewes for the 1918 trade

W. S. HANSEN
COLLINGTON, UTAH

Rambouillet

A. A. WOOD & SONS
Saline, Michigan

Hampshires

Stud Rams RAMBOUILLETS Range Rams



Our Champion C. Ram at Frisco

We offer for sale a large number of registered Rambouillet stud rams and range rams. Will sell in lots of one to a carload. We invite your careful inspection of our flock.

TUCANNON RAMBOUILLET & STOCK FARM
Dayton, Washington

November, 1918

CALIFORNIA

Summer Sheep Range

Solid tract of approximately 50,000 acres logged-off lands, Butte and Tehama counties, California, for term of years beginning with season of 1919. Accessible and well watered. Estimated capacity based on previous use 14,000 head. For particulars apply to the

DIAMOND MATCH CO.,
Grazing Department, Chico, Calif.

PRICES OF SHEEP AND WOOL

Sheep produce meat as well as wool and the course of the prices of sheep is determined by various causes and not solely by the price of wool, yet the price of wool is doubtless an element of sheep price. The Bureau of Crop Estimates has a record of the average price per head of sheep at the farm for January 1 as far back as 1867. All ages and qualities are in-

cluded in the average. A series of upward and downward tendencies is apparent, usually corresponding with periods of industrial elevation and depression.

From the average of \$2.50 per head in 1867 there was a decline to \$1.64 in 1869, after which there was increase to \$2.71 in 1873. Accompanied by fluctuations, a decline followed to \$2.07 in 1879, with increase to \$2.53 in 1883, decline to \$1.91 in 1886; increase to \$2.66 in 1893; decline to \$1.58 in 1895, increase to \$2.98 in 1901, and after that a general upward movement to \$4.02 in 1914, \$4.50 in 1915, \$5.17 in 1916, \$7.14 in 1917, and \$11.82 in 1918. The average price of sheep at the farm January 1, 1918, was seven and a half times the average of 1895, the lowest of record, and was nearly thrice the average of 1914.

Beginning with 1910 the Bureau of Crop Estimates has estimated the average farm price of unwashed wool on the 15th of each month. For September 15 the averages begin with 17.7 cents per pound of unwashed wool in 1910, and continue with 15.6 cents in 1911, 18.7 cents in 1912, 15.8 cents in 1913, 18.6 cents in 1914, 23.3 cents in 1915, 28.4 cents in 1916, and 54.2 cents in 1917. The 1917 price of unwashed wool at the farm was about three and a half times the price of 1913.

There are elaborate records of the wholesale prices of wool. In the Boston market, which is the principal one in this country, the recorded "low" price of Ohio unwashed fine wool in 1912 was 21 cents per pound. In 1914 the "low" of the year was 20 cents, in 1915 it was 23 cents, in 1916 it was 26 cents, and in 1917 it was 38 cents, but during 1917 the "low" of the market increased rapidly from 38 cents in January to 62 cents in September, and 65 cents in December.

The Boston market record for "high" for Ohio unwashed fine wool was 25 cents in 1912 and 1914, 29 cents in 1915, 38 cents in 1916, and 67 cents in 1917. During the last-named year the "high" price of the market increased from 40 cents in January to 67 cents in December.

J. Y. RICH

D. H. LIVINGSTON

RICH-LIVINGSTON CO., Live Stock

402 KEARNS BUILDING PHONE WASATCH 6817
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

WOOLGROWERS ATTENTION

Are you satisfied with your present banking connections?
IF NOT---begin doing business with

The National Bank of the Republic

Capital	\$ 300,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits	358,487.63
Deposits	6,265,191.60

Delay Is Dangerous

Be on the safe side and

Place Your Orders Early

For Shearing Machinery

The supply will be limited, and labor conditions are difficult.

Write for Catalogue and Booklet on Construction of Shearing Sheds.

Chicago Flexible Shaft Company
Chicago, Illinois

—or—

W. H. Sparr,
Stapleton Building,
Billings, Montana.

Chicago Flexible Shaft Company,
224 S. West Temple St.,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

James Stagg,
102 No. 3rd St.,
Albuquerque, N. M.

To take another class and condition of wool, fine territory staple wool, scoured, is selected. The low" price of this wool in 1912 was 60 cents, and from that figure the increase was to 73 cents in 1916, and \$1.10 in 1917, while at the other extreme the 'high" of 1912 was 67 cents; 75c for 1915; \$1.12 for 1916, and \$1.85 for 1917. All records exhibit a marked increase in the price of all kinds of wool in 1916 and more especially in 1917.

IN THE SALT RIVER VALLEY

L. B. Spicer, Peoria, Arizona, near Phoenix, was in Kansas City with a shipment of sheep October 8. Arizona flockmasters have been in the habit of bringing their lambs into the Salt River Valley in the winter, and feeding them a little grain and as much alfalfa as required to finish them for the spring market, alfalfa having been a leading crop in the valley. But Mr. Spicer says a great change is being made there, thousands of acres of alfalfa land having been converted within the last two years into the production of the long fiber cotton, a kind used in the manufacture of automobile tires. One rubber company has more than 40,000 acres in cotton. This replacing of the alfalfa land with cotton is going to reduce very much the sheep and lamb feeding formerly carried on in the valley.—J. A. R.

FROM NORTHERN MONTANA

The past summer has been an exceedingly dry one in this section of northern Montana. No grass, no hay,—nearly all the sheep have been moved out of this county (Toole County) for want of feed. Very few sheep are changing hands. Lambs are held at from \$7 to \$8 per head; good ewes at \$15. So far I have not heard from my wool.

The dry land crops were a total failure around here and the farmers have gone to the lumber camps and shipyards in order to support their families.

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THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

November, 1918

PASTORAL ENGLAND

As everybody knows, for its size, England is the finest sheep rearing country in the world. No other country produces so many different pure breeds of sheep, and so many sheep to the acre. All the wool grown in this country is of great use. When William the Conqueror took over the task of ruling England the land was chiefly

arable except north of Derbyshire. All the northern counties were laid waste, so that if the Scotch people raided England, they would have a desert of over 100 miles to cross. This barrier time and again proved very useful and of great protection to the rich ploughing lands of central and southern England. Not all the land was cultivated, and what was considered waste, and which lay outside the open fields, was used for sheep grazing, sheep being also allowed on the fallow lands and in the fields after harvest. Drawings of sheep of those and later days show them as very lean animals and there is no wonder when one remembers they had to pick up a living under such conditions. Most of them were killed before winter came on and salted for meat.

Between the years 1400 and 1600 was an important period in the history of the land of this country. In 1348 a plague known as the Black Death swept over the country, carrying off the lower classes in tens of thousands. Living conditions were so unsanitary that these people were especially liable to attack, and when it had passed, the number of agricultural laborers was too small to allow of such an amount of farming as had been carried on before. In 1540 the monasteries were dissolved, and this brought about one-fifteenth of the cultivatable land of the country into private hands, so rich had the monasteries been. Thus land owners had more land and fewer work people, and found that running sheep flocks was far cheaper in labor cost than growing food stuffs. One reason why continental countries never attained such prominence as England did in growing wool was because land own-

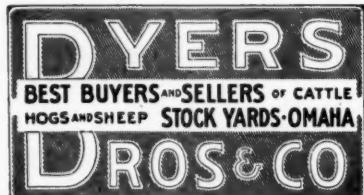
ers in one district were always liable to plunder by a noble or a robber from another, and England owed its success in sheep rearing partly to being an island.

From the time of Edward III. to after Elizabeth's days, kings and queens encouraged the manufacture of cloth in this country and the industry grew rapidly. As it consumed more, the demand for wool rose, so did the price, so did the sheep owner's profits, and more and more land was given over to sheep raising at the expense of food growing. This has had its share in making England a big importer of food stuffs, but what we have lost in that way we have gained in wool and sheep. The growing of corn in this country was pushed out to make way for wool, and today it seems as if growing of wool is to be pushed out to make way for that of corn. We are told we must grow more food stuffs at home. Cutting down our sheep stocks is not good for the country, but it is another form of 'the race between the back and the belly.' Whatever happens, it would seem that this country can hardly become self-supporting in raw materials, either for food or clothing.—Wool Record.

IN EASTERN WASHINGTON

Sheep are all off the summer range and came out in fine condition and a few showers have started the feed on the winter range so there will be plenty of feed until it freezes up. We have had a fine fall in eastern Washington with only a few light frosts, and with the nice warm weather during the day, things in general are looking good. There was quite a heavy loss of sheep in the mountains this summer reported by a number of breeders and they haven't figured the reason yet, unless it was the changing of herders so often. One man said he had had eleven different herders during the season, and others have reported lots of trouble keeping men. Not many sheep changing hands here.

J. MORAN.



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HAGENBARTH INVESTIGATES

Frank J. Hagenbarth, president of the National Wool Growers Association, spent a week in Chicago during the period when the debacle in the lamb market was at its worst, and came to the conclusion that a combination of circumstances not subject to human control was partly responsible, but that profiteering by the retailer had been a factor. While he was conducting his investigation, Food Administration officials in New York had fines imposed on several hundred retail butchers for excess charges on lamb and mutton. Discussing the situation, Mr. Hagenbarth said:

"Despite the break in the live market it appears that restaurant keepers and retailers have actually raised prices to consumers, who have no recourse but to restrict purchases. Investigation of packers' records shows that they are selling dressed lamb at \$15@22 per hundredweight, which is in line with the live market. The situation is deplorable, and unless something can be done to eliminate September and October demoralization, it will be necessary for some sheepmen to go out of business. In our own case I can say that we will be glad to make a contract to give any possible profit on our operations during the period of the war to anyone agreeing to indemnify us against loss. With lambs selling at \$15 to \$16 per hundredweight this may arouse scepticism, but the other side of the slate may be profitably examined. Fortunately, we secured a good price for our wool this year, otherwise our condition would be even more serious. A few years ago we were satisfied when we had fixed ourselves for a 30-day feed; now we must make preparation for a four-month period and with hay at \$15 to \$25 per ton, cottonseed cake costing close to \$80, herders' wages sky-high and all other expenses in proportion, loss is inevitable. When fat lambs sold at \$6 per hundredweight, net profits were more assured."

Mr. Hagenbarth is endeavoring to get at the why and wherefore of these

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

regular slumps during the range season for which some more or less plausible reason is always assigned.

National Wool Growers Convention
Salt Lake City, Jan. 16-17-18-19, 1919.

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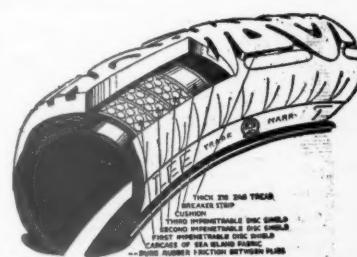
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KANSAS CITY MARKET

Receipts of sheep and lambs in October were 275,472 head, an increase of 94,000 over same month last year, or 52 per cent. Utah consignments began to slacken about the middle of the month, but western Colorado shipped heavily up to the last week of the month. Arizona, New Mexico and Wyoming sent a fair number, with the usual percentage from nearby states, considerable in the aggregate. Western shipments showed a big decrease the last week of the month, and while a good many remain to come, the big runs of range sheep are over, yet November receipts will probably exceed the supply in November last year, which was 106,673 head.

Prices declined steadily during the month till the last ten days, when there was a reaction amounting to 50 cents to \$1 on all grades. Packers got fat lambs down almost to \$15 per cwt., which has been their aim all fall, but the month closes with best lambs selling at \$16.75. Fat ewes hung around \$8.25 to \$9.50, but the last week of the month sales were made at \$10 for best Western ewes. Small and middle sized lamb feeders bought freely all month, and the low time on feeding lambs was the third week of the month. The big feeders began to get in the last week of the month, and values close 50 cents to \$1 above the lowest time, most of the lambs selling at \$12.75 to \$13.50 at the finish, with fleshy lambs for a short feed up to \$14.50, and common light lambs down around \$11.

The market closes the month with a healthy tone, and as fed lambs will not be available in any numbers for some weeks ahead, prices should continue firm, particularly as the mutton trade is satisfactory for the moment, and packers' demands comparatively large.

J. A. RICKART.

FEED BILL A FACTOR

Feeders have been sidestepping common Western lambs this year. On one session when the feeder end of the Wood Live Stock Company's stuff sold at \$15, common light Montanas were hard to move at any price.

"It's the feed bill," said a man who insisted on good ones. "I could buy lambs at \$12@13 per hundredweight, and yet I prefer to pay \$14.50. The good ones give better returns for the feed, come along faster and what is equally important, will be ready to return to the market earlier than common stuff."

Market observers have expressed surprise at the large proportion of common and light lambs showing up this year. Feed scarcity was responsible in a measure, but the brand of the grade ram could easily be detected. —J. E. P.

FIRST SALES OF PARTLY FINISHED WESTERN LAMBS

Many partly finished Western lambs from corn belt territory, the first sales of which, in nearly all instances, proved a disappointment to the shippers, have been included in receipts at this market during the last three weeks. Lambs, which were purchased at Omaha and Chicago during July, August, and the early part of September at prices ranging from \$17 to \$18 per cwt., have sold at prices ranging from \$1 to as much as \$5 per cwt. lower than the original cost because of poor killing condition and the decline in market prices which have taken place since they were purchased. The first bad storms which are indicative of the approach of winter, usually prove the signal for an exodus of Western lambs from the corn belt and Eastern farms which are not equipped to provide proper shelter. The output of feeders was liberal during the first part of the feeding season, and much of the stock went into the hands of small farmers, whose experience in sheep feeding has been more or less limited.

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HOG PRICES FIXED

The National Agricultural Advisory Committee, of which President Hagenbarth is a member, recently issued the following statement fixing the price of hogs. This automatically advanced the price of both lambs and beef.

"The conference between the livestock subcommittee, of the agricultural advisory board, including special members representing the swine industry and of the Food Administration, held on October 23 to 25, has, after consideration of the present situation of the pork and hog market, reached the following conclusions:

"The entire marketing situation has so changed since the September joint conference as to necessitate an entire alteration in the plans of price stabilization. The current peace talk has alarmed the holders of corn and there has been a decline of from 25 to 40 cents per bushel.

The fact that the accumulation of low priced corn in the Argentine and South Africa would, upon the advent of peace and liberated shipping, become available to the European market, has created a great deal of apprehension on the part of corn holders. This decline has spread fear among swine growers that a similar reduction in the prices of hogs would naturally follow. Moreover, the lower range of corn prices would, if incorporated in a 13 to 1 ratio, obviously result in a continuously falling price for live hogs. In view of these changed conditions, many swine producers anticipated lower prices and as a result rushed their hogs to market in large numbers, and this overshipment has added to and aggravated the decline.

"The information of the department of agriculture indicates that the supply of hogs has increased about 8 per cent, while the highest unofficial estimate does not exceed 15 per cent increased production over last year. On the other hand the arrival of hogs during the last three weeks in the seven great markets has been 27 per cent more than last year during the

corresponding period, demonstrating the unusually heavy marketing of the available supply in the face of the excessive receipts.

"Some packers have not maintained the price agreed last month. On the other hand many of the packers have paid over the price offered to them in an endeavor to maintain the agreed price. The result in any event has been a failure to maintain the October price basis determined upon by the September conference and undertaken by the packers. Another factor contributing to the break in prices during the month has been the influenza epidemic. It has sharply curtailed consumption of pork products and temporarily decreased the labor staff of the packers about 25 per cent. The exports of 130,000,000 pounds of pork products for October, compared with about 52,000,000 pounds in October a year ago and the export orders placeable by the Food Administration for November amount to 170,000,000, compared with the lesser exports of 98,000,000 for November, 1917. The increased demands of the Allies are continuing and are in themselves proof of the necessity for the large production for which the Food Administration asked.

"The increase in export demands appears to be amply sufficient to take up the increase in hog production, but unfavorable market conditions existing in October afford no fair index of the aggregate supply and demand. It must be evident that the enormous shortage in fats in the central empires and neutral countries would immediately upon peace, result in additional demands for pork products which, on top of the heavy shipment to the Allies, would tend materially to increase the American exports in as much as no considerable reservoir of supplies exists outside of the United States.

"It seems probable that the present prospective supplies would be inadequate to meet this world's demand with the return to peace. So far as it is possible to interpret this act it appears that there should be even a stronger demand for pork products af-

ter the war and therefore any alarm of hog producers as to the effect of peace is unwarranted by the outlook in the light of these circumstances.

"It is the conclusion of the conference that attempts to hold the price of hogs to the price of corn may work out to the disadvantage of pork producers; it is the conclusion that any interpretation of the formula should be a broad gauged policy applied over a long period. It is the opinion of the conference that in substitution of the previous plans of stabilization of the livestock subcommittee of the agricultural advisory board together with the specially invited swine representatives should accept the invitation of the Food Administration to join with the administration and the packers in determining the prices at which controlled export orders are to be placed. This will be regularly done. The influence of these orders will be directed to the maintenance of the common object, namely, the stabilization of the price of live hogs so as to secure as far as it is possible, fair returns to the producer and the insurance of an adequate future supply.

"These foreign orders are placed upon the basis of cost of hogs to the packers. As the result of long negotiations between this body and the packers a committee representing the forty-five to fifty packers participating in foreign orders, together with the allied buyers, all under the chairmanship of the Food Administration, the following undertaking has been given by the packers in view of the undertakings on the part of the Food Administration with regard to the co-ordinated purchases of pork.

"It is agreed that the packers participating in these orders will undertake not to purchase hogs for less than the following agreed minimum for the month of November, that is, a daily minimum of \$17.50 per 100 pounds on average packers' droves excluding throwouts, to be defined as pigs under 130 pounds, stags, boars, thin sows and skips. Further, that no hogs of any kind shall be bought, except throwouts, at less than \$16.50 per 100 pounds, the average of packers'

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droves to be construed as the average of the total sales in the market of all hogs for a given day, all the above to be based on Chicago market prices.

"We agree that a committee shall be appointed by the Food Administration to check the daily operations in the various markets with a view to supervision and demonstration of the carrying out of the above. The ability of the packers to carry out this arrangement will depend on there being a normal marketing of hogs based upon the proportionate increase over the receipts of last year. The increase in production appears to be a maximum of about 15 per cent and we can handle such an increase if the producers of hogs should, as they have in the past few weeks, prematurely market hogs at such increasing numbers over the above.

"It is entirely beyond the ability of the packers to maintain these minimums and therefore we must have the co-operation of the producer himself to maintain these results. It is a physical impossibility for the capacity of the packing houses to handle a similar overflow of hogs and to find a market for the output. The packers are anxious to co-operate with the producers in maintaining a stabilization of price and to see that producers receive a fair price for their products.

(Signed) "THOS. E. WILSON,

LESS WOOL USED IN SEPTEMBER

Washington, D. C.—Manufacturers used 5,500,000 pounds less wool in September than in August, 1918, September figures being about 58,300,000 pounds, grease equivalent, compared to 63,900,000 in August. Stocks of wool consumed in September in pounds, by classes, as given by the Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture, were: Grease, 35,896,421; scoured, 10,143,136; and pulled, 1,608,856. The report shows Massachusetts consumed the most wool in September, followed in order by Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island, New York, Ohio, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine.

TROUBLES OF THE MUTTON MARKET

"Whenever it becomes necessary for the packer to put lamb or mutton away in the freezer," said Robert S. Matheson, the Swift expert, "somebody must pay the bill. In the first place that process is not economic. Beef may be frozen and pork cured, but no satisfactory method of preserving mutton has yet been devised. It can be frozen in an emergency, but depreciation is serious and deterioration inevitable. Freezing lamb or mutton is highly speculative and only resorted to as an expedient to relieve market congestion. Cost of carrying is three-fourths of a cent per pound monthly; when thrown on the market ultimately it sells at a discount of two cents per pound under fresh-killed stuff, and cannot be forced into circulation except during periods when a shortage of fresh product exists. Usually it is necessary to carry frozen stuff four months so that the risky nature of the speculation will be realized. This year packers were under the necessity of freezing thousands of light Western lambs for which there was no other outlet and had they not been equal to such an emergency, losses to growers would have been heavy.

"The trouble with the dressed mutton market is restriction. Such cities as New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Washington consume the bulk of the lambs marketed, consequently when Western stuff comes in competition with locally grown product in large quantities something of a disastrous nature is inevitable. This is what happened recently, the dressed market going to pieces, forcing much product to the freezer and much to the bargain counter. Frozen mutton or lamb is a notoriously bad selling article. It slumps away the moment it comes in contact with a temperature above the freezing point, consequently, retailers will not handle it when they can get fresh stuff. Usually it goes to restaurants and hotels who can utilize it to better advantage. Until a method of curing or preserving mutton is devised this handicap will exist.

"Doubtless it has been a hard season on the grower, but the packer has had his troubles. Despite the break in the live market, lamb has been selling on a minus basis, which means a loss. There has been money in the product of old sheep, but difficulty has been encountered in boning that product as boners were able to make more money working on beef. During the October break in lambs, the price of carcasses declined four to five cents per pound. At the bottom of the break, our weekly sales in Chicago averaged \$19.85 per hundredweight, which included choice lambs, thousands of carcasses selling at \$15@20 per hundredweight. Good lamb backs were on a \$20@26 basis. So far as the killer was concerned, he did his part to work off the surplus as it was to his advantage to get every possible pound into immediate consumption.

"Lambs came poor this year, which must be taken into consideration. We killed 55@56-pound lambs and they do not make a desirable carcass. There is little demand for quarters at this season and a 30-pound carcass cannot be advantageously cut in smaller portions. A 70-pound lamb meets trade requirements, better than any other weight. One standard band of Western lambs that usually weighs 72 pounds came ten pounds lighter this year and dressed less than 50 per cent.

"Of prime necessity for the welfare of the lamb grower is a wider outlet for the product. In thousands of small towns it has no place in the meat supply. Such cities as Omaha, Kansas City and Denver use little. Cincinnati, Pittsburg and Buffalo are notoriously light lamb eaters. For some reason or other butchers are averse to handling it, although I have never been able to understand why. At present the Atlantic seaboard is a dumping ground and when congestion occurs there the live mutton market promptly goes to pieces. Only a small part of the hog's carcass goes into fresh meat channels, all of the lamb should be sold fresh, if disposed of economically, and until we can popularize it with more American

meat eaters such periods of stress as the trade is now going through will occur, whenever supply is slightly heavier than the needs of the day."

The National Wool Growers Association meets in Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 16-17-18-19, 1919. Don't miss it.



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Charlotte, Mich.

CONTINENTAL DORSET CLUB

Membership fee, \$5. "No other sheep in the world has in it the capacity for profit that has the 'Dorset Horn'."

President—Fred Huyler, Gladstone, N. J.

Secretary—E. Chidester, Mechanicsburg, Ohio.

Write the Secretary for information and printed matter about Dorsets.

Mention the National Wool Grower

COLORADO TAKES

HOLD TARDILY

When Colorado feeders announced early in the season that they intended to buy feeding lambs at \$12 per hundredweight on the range, no seriousness was attached to the ascertain. For many years Colorado dealers have made similar statements, later developments showing that even while talking they had been buying under cover. This year they stuck, those who finance the movement being in a large measure responsible. The result was demoralization of the Omaha and Chicago feeder market in October when Iowa wearied of absorbing the heavy run at Omaha and Eastern feeders canceled orders at Chicago.

Late in October Colorado concluded that there was danger of not getting a winter supply. In a few days prices soared \$2 per hundredweight, Denver prices passing Omaha quotations. Heavy purchases were made at \$14@14.50, the movement eastward being diverted from Chicago and Omaha. The Scotts Bluff people took a hand and feeders who refused to buy when \$11@13 had an opportunity to nurse red-eyed regret.

The American Hampshire Sheep Association

Hampshires are the most popular sheep in the United States. They are the most practical farmer's sheep in existence.

Hampshires won first prize on carlond wether lambs at 1916 International. This car lamb won Grand Champion ship over all breeds and all ages.

Hampshires sold at the highest average price at the National Wool Growers Auction sale in September, 1916.

The highest priced sheep sold at the 1917 Sale was a Hampshire.

The highest priced mutton sheep ever sold in America was a Hampshire in 1917.

The highest priced ram ever sold from the auction block in America was a Hampshire in 1917.

The highest priced car of mutton lambs ever sold in the world was a car of Hampshires in 1918, the price being 42c per pound, having beaten all previous records by 87 per hundred.

The sheep that always pleases; always makes money; always wins. The best mutton sheep in the world. Write the secretary for information.

Robert Blastock, President, Donerail, Ky.
Comfort A. Tyler, Secretary, 36 Woodland Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Colorado will probably not feed as heavily as last year, as hay is high and Nebraska short of corn. The drop in corn favors the feeders, however, present indications being that it will go still lower.

The Denver feeder market late in October and early November was animated. There were a dozen buyers to every load, indicating that the game had been overplayed.

Iowa demand fell off about the time Colorado developed an appetite, but it has been the big purchaser this year. Relatively few lambs have gone into territory east of Chicago as feeders there are waiting an opportunity to get second-half fat stuff from Iowa cornfields. Illinois and Indiana have been free buyers.

GRAZING SHEEP IN IDAHO UNDER "TWO-MILE" LAW

In Denney vs. Arritola, et al, 174 Pacific 135, supreme court of Idaho, Denney sued for damages owing to Arritola and others permitting sheep to graze within two miles of his place of residence. Idaho Revised Codes, p. 1217, makes it unlawful for any person to herd or permit sheep to be herded "within two miles of the dwelling house of the owner of such possessory claim." Trial court awarded judgment for Denney, but the supreme court reversed it on the grounds that Denney did not own nor have any semblance of title to the ground where he resided; neither had he any right thereto as required by law.—Livestock Exchange Bulletin.

A GOOD SALE

A Utah breeder of Rambouillet has, we understand, recently sold to a Dakota man 100 head of Rambouillet ram lambs at \$60 a head. This strikes us as a very good sale and is equal to about \$85 a head for yearlings. The cost of carrying a ram lamb from October first to the following September with good feed and care is around \$25 a head. On this basis these lambs would have to sell at \$85 next fall to net as much as \$60 now.